

# 36th ANN ARBOR



# FILM FESTIVAL

INDEPENDENT  
AND  
EXPERIMENTAL  
16MM  
FILM

## show times

Tuesday  
8

Wednesday  
7 & 9:30

Thursday  
7, 9:30 & 11

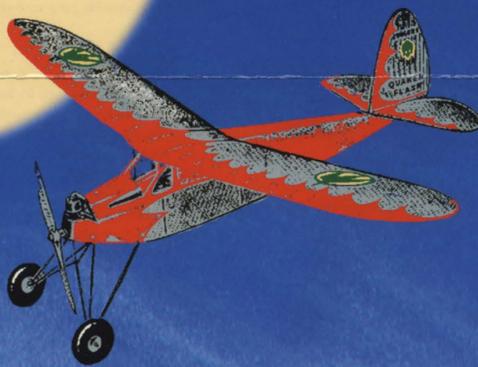
Friday  
7 & 9:30

Saturday  
1, 7 & 9:30

## Winners Screenings

Sunday  
5, 7 & 9

**March 17-22, 1998**  
**Michigan Theater**



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## about the festival

The Ann Arbor Film Festival is a non-profit arts organization that has a long-standing tradition of showcasing every genre of 16mm independent and experimental film. It is the oldest festival of its kind in the country. The festival was founded in 1963 at the University of Michigan School of Art by filmmaker/artist George Manupelli. Now independent of the university and under the direction of Festival Director Vicki Honeyman, the festival continues to cater to independent works by film artists.

The festival spans six days in mid-March. All screenings take place in the historic Michigan Theater, a restored 1920s movie theater in downtown Ann Arbor. High-quality projection has always been a priority of the festival. We are very fortunate to have available state-of-the-art sound and projection facilities provided by the Michigan Theater and its projection staff.

## rules & conditions

The Ann Arbor Film Festival is open to all films of all genre that demonstrate a high regard for film as an art form. Films previously submitted may not be re-entered. All films, regardless of original format, must be 16mm with either an optical soundtrack or silent. Foreign entries should have English subtitles. **Only 16mm prints are pre-screened and programmed. Videotapes are not accepted under any circumstance. Videotapes sent in lieu of a print will not be returned.** Our reasons for pre-screening only prints are: (1) video does not do justice to the film medium and (2) entries are pre-screened until several days before the festival's onset, which does not allow turnaround time for prints to arrive for festival week. Tungsten projectors are used during the film pre-screening process. Xenon projectors are used at the Michigan Theater for festival week. It is your choice whether to send a xenon or tungsten print.

## entry procedure

An entry form must be completed for each film entered. Photocopies of the entry form are acceptable. The fee per film of \$32 for U.S. entries and \$37 for foreign entries must accompany the entry form. Make entry fees payable to the Ann Arbor Film Festival. Mail the entry form separately from film shipment (this allows us to determine if films have been lost in the mail). Do not send library rate. **Each film submitted must be mounted on a reel (not a core) heads-out, contained in a film can, and shipped in a standard shipping case or an appropriate reusable mailing container. All films must have beginning and ending leader. Please label shipping cases, cans, reels, and film leader with the film title, filmmakers name and telephone number. Please do not use packing popcorn.** The festival does not acknowledge receipt of films. If you wish to have the receipt of your entry acknowledged, please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope or postcard with your film.

Entry form, check, and film can be mailed to: Ann Arbor Film Festival, P.O. Box 8232, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107 or shipped to Ann Arbor Film Festival, 207 E. Ann St., Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104. The postmark deadline for entries is February 15, 1998. Call the festival office at 313/995-5356 about late entries.

## festival procedures

Every film submitted is seen in its entirety by a selection committee comprised of people knowledgeable about independent and experimental film. Because the number of entries exceeds the available public screening time, not every film can be programmed: of the 310 films entered last year, 93 were shown during the 24 hours of public screenings. The films that are shown to the awards jury and public during festival week are selected and programmed by the screening committee, whose selections are based on each film's overall quality in technique and creativity. Films are not selected to fit into categorized programming requirements. Each public screening has a mix of every genre, making every show different and unique.

No film is screened twice, unless it is awarded and screened during the winners shows. Although a film may not be programmed into the public screenings, it is still in competition. The awards jury screens a selection of non-programmed films at the festival office during festival week, as time allows. Awards are determined by the awards jurors following the completion of the public screenings. Awards are announced on Sunday, March 22; a selection of awarded films are programmed into three public awards screenings that evening.

The festival week program is determined several days prior to the festival and announced on Friday, March 13. Postcards will be mailed to filmmakers indicating whether or not their film has been programmed into the festival's public screenings at the Michigan Theater. Please call the Michigan Theater box office (313/668-8397 x 22) after March 13 for program information. Filmmakers planning to attend the festival if their film is accepted into the program who need to make travel arrangements in advance should include a note to that effect with their print.

All films submitted to the festival, except those selected to go on the festival tour, will be mailed postpaid and insured from the festival office on March 27. A full report on the festival (program, awards, and tour information) will be mailed to participants within two weeks of the festival's completion. The Ann Arbor Film Festival is not responsible for lost films or festival reports after June 30, 1998.

All filmmakers entering work in the festival are invited to attend the public screenings as guests of the Ann Arbor Film Festival. Complimentary passes are held at the box office window under each filmmaker's name during festival week. For hotel information and maps of Ann Arbor, call the Ann Arbor Convention & Visitors Bureau at 800/888-9487.

## festival tour

The festival director selects films to be sent on a national tour of colleges and film showplaces across the country. The four-hour program is made up of a selection of awarded and highlighted films from the festival. The tour runs March through August. A rental fee of \$2 per minute per tour stop is paid to filmmakers participating in the tour. Each tour stop takes responsibility for films lost or damaged while in their possession. Films are returned postpaid and insured following the last tour date. If you do not wish to participate in the tour, check "NO" on the entry form. This decision has no bearing on any other aspect of the festival. If you have a change of address while your film is on tour, please contact us by July with the change. If this information is not provided, the festival will not be responsible for lost films or rental checks.

## festival week

The 36th Ann Arbor Film Festival opens on Tuesday, March 17, 1998 with a reception in the lobby of the Michigan Theater, followed by the public screening of films. The festival runs through Saturday, March 21 and ends with a program of awarded films on Sunday, March 22. Screenings are: Tuesday 8:00 pm; Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 7:00 & 9:30 pm & Thursday 11:00 pm; Saturday 1:00, 7:00 & 9:30 pm; and Sunday 5:00, 7:00 & 9:00 pm. In addition to the nightly public screenings, there are free afternoon presentations at which the awards jury screen and discuss their own films.

## awards jury

The awards jury is comprised of filmmakers, artists, and critics who are dedicated to independent and experimental film. They view all public screenings with the audience at the Michigan Theater, as well as viewing other non-programmed entries of their choosing, which they screen privately as time allows. Decisions regarding film awards and the distribution of prize money are the prerogative of the awards jury. Their decisions are final and are not made until after all public screenings have taken place. Awards are announced on Sunday, March 22, with three public screenings of a selection of awarded films taking place that evening.

The members of this year's jury are:

**Dominic Angerame**, Executive Director of Canyon Cinema, the world's largest distributor of independent films and videotapes. He teaches film courses at the San Francisco Art Institute, the Academy of Art College, and the University of California/Extension, Berkeley. An experimental filmmaker since 1969, Mr. Angerame has compiled a filmography of over twenty films, which have been shown and awarded at festivals throughout the U.S.

**Jan Krawitz**, Professor of documentary film at Stanford University since 1988. A documentary filmmaker for the past twenty years, her most recent film, *In Harm's Way*, received the Isabella Liddell Art Award at the 35th Ann Arbor Film Festival. Along with numerous awards and festival screenings around the U.S., several of her films have been broadcast nationally on the Discovery Channel, the Learning Channel, and have been included in the PBS *P.O.V.* series.

**Christopher Sullivan**, Associate Professor of filmmaking and animation at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago since 1988. An experimental animator and performance artist, Mr. Sullivan's film *Landscape With the Fall of Icarus* received the Chris Frayne Award for Best Animation at the 32nd Ann Arbor Film Festival. His performance art exhibitions have been in such places as the Museum of Contemporary Art and the Randolph Street Gallery in Chicago, Franklin Furnace in New York, and the Walker Art Center.

## the awards

A total of \$12,000 is awarded in cash prizes by the awards jurors, including the following named awards:

**The Mosaic Foundation Best of Festival Award** This top award of \$2,000 honors the film that best represents the artistic and creative standards of the festival. It is sponsored by the Ann Arbor-based Mosaic Foundation of Rita and Peter Heydon.

**Tom Berman Award for Most Promising Filmmaker** This award of \$1,000 is intended to honor a young, gifted filmmaker. It is given in memory of Tom Berman, a University of Michigan film student and early supporter and close friend of the Ann Arbor Film Festival.

**Screening Committee's Choice for Narrative Integrity** This award of \$1,000 is granted to one filmmaker by the screening committee. The intent is to ensure that a deserving entry has the opportunity to win multiple awards. The recipient is announced following the awards juror's announcement of winners.

**Marvin Felheim Award** This award of \$500 for the Best Experimental Film is in honor of one of the founders of the Ann Arbor Film Festival, Marvin Felheim, who was a film scholar at the University of Michigan. His wisdom and strength guided the festival for 17 years.

**Chris Frayne Award** This \$500 award for the Best Animated Film is in memory of Chris Frayne, a key participant in the early years of the festival. Chris' spirit and approach to life was reminiscent of his cartoon characters. The award has been endowed with the hope that his spirit will continue through the prize.

**Lawrence Kasdan Award** This award of \$500 for Best Narrative Film is annually endowed by Mr. Kasdan, who began his film career in Ann Arbor studying film at the University of Michigan.

**Michael Moore Award** An award of \$500 for Best Documentary Film sponsored by Michael Moore. Giving back to the festival what he's received in inspiration from the hundreds of films he's viewed over the years at the Ann Arbor Film Festival, proceeds from his film *Roger and Me* fund this annual award.

**Grace & Wild Studios/Film Craft Lab Award** An award of \$500 for Best Cinematography, in honor of the many independent filmmakers who have contributed to the success of Grace & Wild's laboratory division, Film Craft Lab.

**Telepost Inc. Award** An award of \$500 for Excellence in the Art of Film Editing, funded by the Detroit-based editing firm, Telepost Inc. The award goes to the film that demonstrates outstanding creativity and technical excellence in the art of film editing.

**Liberty Street Video Award for Best Gay/Lesbian Film** This award of \$500 is sponsored by Ann Arbor's alternative video store that promotes diversity and excellence in filmmaking. In that spirit, this award honors the film that best deals with gay/lesbian issues.

**Borders Books and Music Best Michigan Filmmaker Award** This award of \$500 is intended to support and encourage the local filmmaking community by rewarding excellence in a Michigan-produced film within any genre. Sponsored by the international bookstore that got its start in Ann Arbor.

**Peter Wilde Award** This award of \$500 goes to the Most Technically Innovative Film, in memory of the festival's dear friend Peter Wilde, who cared passionately about the projected image and was a technical wizard and master of the makeshift.

**Ann Arbor Film Coop Award** For 26 years the Ann Arbor Film Cooperative was dedicated to showing films that were brash, irreverent, subversive, or obscene, but first and foremost unique, challenging and original. This award of \$500 is intended for the film that best embodies that spirit.

**Isabella Liddell Art Award** This memorial award of \$300 is given to the film that best deals with women's issues. Created by friends of Isabella Liddell who was a dear friend and long-time supporter of the festival, as well as a patron and practitioner of the arts.

**The Old Peculiar Award** A \$300 award for the film that evidences a high regard for film as a creative medium and is eminently successful as a work of art. Named after a powerful English ale, the award represents a nostalgic urge on the part of some former festival operatives who can variously be described as old, peculiar, or both.

**Honorable Mentions** A total of \$2,400 is awarded in honorable mentions by the awards jurors.

Festival contact numbers are:

office telephone: 313/995-5356

fax: 313/995-5396

e-mail: [vicki@honeyman.org](mailto:vicki@honeyman.org)

web: <http://aafilmfest.org>

Note: We make available filmmaker names/addresses for distributors, media centers and film festivals who request this information.

ann arbor film festival

P.O. Box 8232

Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107

Address Correction Requested

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