

37TH

ANNUAL ARBOR

experimental 16mm
independent

FILM FESTIVAL

MARCH 16-22

1999

MICHIGAN

THEATER

Showtimes:

Tuesday 8:00

Wednesday 7:00 + 9:30

Thursday 7:00, 9:30 + 11:00

Friday 7:00 + 9:30

Saturday 1:00, 7:00 + 9:30

Winner Screenings:

Sunday 5:00, 7:00, + 9:00

ABSOLUT
Country of Sweden
VODKA

**mc
aca**
michigan council for
arts and cultural affairs

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 fortunate to have 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 and are not returned if sent in lieu of a print.** Why only prints are pre-screened: (1) video does not do justice to the film medium; (2) entries are pre-screened until several days before the festival's onset, not allowing turnaround time for prints to arrive for festival week. Tungsten projectors are used during the pre-screening process. Xenon projectors are used festival week at the Michigan Theater. 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. 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 reusable mailing container. All films must have beginning and ending leader. Label shipping cases, cans, reels, and film leader with film title, filmmaker name and telephone number. Please do not use packing popcorn.** If you wish to have the receipt of your entry acknowledged, 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, MI 48107 USA -or- shipped to: Ann Arbor Film Festival, 207 E. Ann St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104 USA. The postmark deadline for entries is Monday, February 1, 1999. Call the festival office about late entries: 734/995-5356 .

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 371 films entered last year, 113 were shown during the 28 hours of public screenings. Films 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 and are announced on Sunday, March 21. A selection of awarded films are programmed into the three public awards screenings that evening.

The festival week program will be announced on Wednesday, March 10. Filmmakers will receive advance notification by mail/email indicating whether or not their film has been programmed into the Michigan Theater public screenings. For program information phone the Michigan Theater box office: 734/668-8397 x 22 after March 10 or visit the festival's website at <http://aafilmfest.org>. Filmmakers planning to attend the festival if their film is accepted into the program 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 shipped postpaid and insured from the festival office on March 25. 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, 1999.

All filmmakers entering work in the festival are invited to attend as guests of the Ann Arbor Film Festival. A reception is held for visiting filmmakers at the end of festival week. Complimentary passes are held at the box office window under each filmmaker's name during festival week. For hotel information phone the Ann Arbor Convention & Visitors Bureau: 800/888-9487 or visit their website at <http://www.annarbor.org>.

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

FESTIVAL TOUR

The festival director selects films to be sent on a national tour of colleges and film showplaces across the country March through October. The four-hour program is made up of a selection of awarded and highlighted films from the festival. A rental fee of \$2 per minute per tour stop is paid to filmmakers participating in the tour. 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 September with the change, otherwise the festival will not be responsible for lost films or rental checks.

FESTIVAL WEEK

The 37th Ann Arbor Film Festival opens on Tuesday, March 16, 1999 with a reception in the lobby of the Michigan Theater, followed by the public screening of films. The festival runs through Saturday, March 20 and ends with a program of awarded films on Sunday, March 21. 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 21, with three public screenings of a selection of awarded films taking place that evening.

The members of this year's jury are:

Michael Hoolboom, an experimental filmmaker residing in Toronto, Ontario. With over 40 films to his name, his work has been screened and awarded at festivals and film venues throughout Canada and around the world. His most recent film, *Passing On*, received Best Experimental Film Award at the 36th Ann Arbor Film Festival. Mr. Hoolboom is author of *Inside the Pleasure Dome: Fringe Film in Canada*, a collection of interviews with some of Canada's finest fringe filmmakers and *Plague Years*, an illustrated tongue-in-cheek biography.

Lynne Sachs, a filmmaker with an interest in blending experimental and documentary film forms. In addition to garnering awards at festivals around the country, she has had four films screened at the Ann Arbor Film Festival, including her most recent film, *A Biography of Lilith*. Ms. Sachs has taught film courses at colleges and universities on both coasts as well as having been published in film, media, and arts publications. She is currently visiting artist in the film program at Temple University.

Chel White, a filmmaker from Portland, Oregon whose short films have been exhibited and awarded in festivals all over the world. *Choreography for Copy Machine (Photocopy Cha Cha)* won Best Animation in several festivals including the USA Film Festival and the Ann Arbor Film Festival. Other projects include directing music videos and composing music and sound design for films and visual effects for feature films. His work as visual effects artist can be seen in three feature films by fellow Portland filmmaker, Gus Van Sant.

THE AWARDS

A total of \$13,000 in cash prizes is awarded by the awards jurors, including the following annual named awards:

The Mosaic Foundation Best of Festival Award \$2,000

Honors the film that best represents the artistic and creative standards of the festival. Sponsored by the Ann Arbor-based Mosaic Foundation of Rita and Peter Heydon.

Tom Berman Award for Most Promising Filmmaker \$1,000

Honors a young, gifted filmmaker, given in memory of Tom Berman, a University of Michigan film student and early supporter and close friend of the festival.

Screening Committee's Choice for Narrative Integrity \$1,000

Granted to one filmmaker by the screening committee to ensure that a deserving entry has the opportunity to win multiple awards. The recipient is announced following the awards jurors announcement of winners.

Marvin Felheim Best Experimental Film Award \$500

Honors one of the founders of the festival, Marvin Felheim, who was a film scholar at the University of Michigan and whose wisdom and strength guided the festival for 17 years.

Chris Frayne Best Animated Film Award \$500

In memory of Chris Frayne, a key participant in the festival's early years whose 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 Best Narrative Film Award \$500

Endowed by Mr. Kasdan, who began his film career in Ann Arbor studying film at the University of Michigan.

Michael Moore Best Documentary Film Award \$500

Michael Moore gives back to the festival what he received in inspiration from the hundreds of films he's viewed over the years at the festival. Proceeds from *Roger and Me* fund the award.

Film Craft Lab/Kodak Best Cinematography Award \$500 + 16mm or 35mm film stock donated by Kodak

For the film that demonstrates the highest excellence and creativity in cinematography. Presented in honor of the many independent filmmakers who have contributed to the success of Grace & Wild's lab division, Film Craft Lab, over the last 25 years.

Telepost Inc. Editing Award \$500

Funded by Detroit-based editing firm, Telepost Inc. Awarded to the film that demonstrates outstanding creativity and technical excellence in the art of film editing.

Liberty Street Video Best Gay/Lesbian Film Award \$500

Sponsored by Ann Arbor's alternative video store that promotes diversity and excellence in filmmaking. In that spirit, the award honors the film that best deals with gay/lesbian issues.

Michigan Vue Magazine Best Michigan Filmmaker Award \$500

Supporting the local filmmaking community by rewarding excellence in a Michigan-produced film within any genre. Sponsored by Michigan Vue Magazine, dedicated to promoting Michigan's film, video, and multi-media production industry.

Tio's Best Sound Design Award \$500

For the film exhibiting the best use of sound design, sponsored by Ann Arbor's Tio's Restaurant which has been serving up the spiciest salsa around since 1987.

Peter Wilde Most Technically Innovative Film Award \$500

In memory of the festival's friend Peter Wilde, who cared passionately about the projected image and was a technical wizard and master of the makeshift. The award honors the film that most respects the integrity of the projected image.

Ann Arbor Film Coop Award \$500

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 is for the film that best embodies that spirit.

Isabella Liddell Art Award \$300

A memorial award for 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 and practitioner of the arts.

The Old Peculiar Award \$300

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 \$2,900

Honorable mentions awarded by the awards jurors.

ENTRY FORM - THE POSTMARK DEADLINE IS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1999

You must submit a brief 2-3 sentence statement (no more than 50 words) about your film for use in the festival program.

Complete one entry form for each film entered. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY. Photocopies of the form are accepted. Enclose entry fee (per film) of \$32 for U.S. entry or \$37 for foreign entry.

MAIL TO:
Ann Arbor Film Festival
P.O. Box 8232
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107

-OR-

SHIP TO:
Ann Arbor Film Festival
207 E. Ann St.
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104

PLEASE NOTE: Do not submit film on a core, tails out, or flipped. **DO NOT SEND VIDEOTAPE.** We will not return videotapes sent in place of a 16mm print.

Film Title _____

Name of Filmmaker _____

Production Information

Genre Experimental Animation

Tour Yes No

____ Minutes ____ Year of Production

Documentary Narrative

Are you including labeled slides/photos?

Are you including materials?

B&W Color Optical

Other _____

Yes No

Yes No

____ Silent: ____ 18 ____ 24

Original format _____

Is this a first film? Yes No

Is this your first time entering the Ann Arbor Film Festival?

Yes No

How did you hear about the festival? Brochure mailing

Magazine ad Web page Publication listings

Word of mouth Other _____

Magazine/publication title _____

SHIPPING INFORMATION: WE MUST RECEIVE FILM RETURN ADDRESS CHANGES BY MONDAY, MARCH 22, 1999 NOON EST.

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____

Day telephone _____ Night telephone _____

Fax number _____ E-mail address _____

Return film (if different from mailing address) _____

Shipping address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____

Who are you? Student Faculty Professional filmmaker

Other _____

School/institution _____

Ethnic background and gender category requested for statistical purposes only. Please place a check accordingly:

Gender female male

Ethnic background African-American/Black Hispanic/Latino

Asian Native American Caucasian/European

for office use only

Entry fee paid UPS Pick-up

Cash Film# U.S.P.S. Other

Check Weight Fed X Postpaid

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Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107

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