

92Y TRIBECA SEP 2012 FILM

LA DI DA

FILM FESTIVAL | NEW YORK



Co-presented by BOMB Magazine.

This September, 92YTribeca hosts the inaugural year of the La Di Da Film Festival, a new weekend-long festival curated by Miriam Bale showcasing an emerging style of film and the artists who are shaping it. The festival highlights some of the most exciting new work in independent cinema, including premieres and standouts from the festival circuit. The line-up includes career peaks by indie stalwarts Amy Seimetz, The Safdie Brothers, and Sean Price Williams; new work from up-and-coming filmmakers Dustin Guy Defa, Maiko Endo, Sam Fleischner and Stephen Gurewitz; plus breakthrough performances by actors Alex Karpovsky, Kate Lyn Sheil, Kentucker Audley and Eléonore Hendricks. Each program also features a post-screening Q&A with artists in attendance.

FRI, SEP 14, 6:45 PM

SAVAGE INNOCENCE SHORTS PROGRAM

A roundup of the some of the best short films of the year and a glimpse at a promising upcoming feature, all from NY-based filmmakers.

Works to be screened include:

THE BLACK BALLOON

A winner of awards at both Sundance and SXSW, this retelling of the *The Red Balloon* follows the sole black balloon in a brightly colored bunch as he breaks free and observes the urban isolation in crowded New York City.

Directors: Benny and Josh Safdie. 21 min. 2012.

FAMILY NIGHTMARE

A masterful use of found footage, VHS home movies are dubbed in the filmmaker's own voice to show a haunting, innocent view of family dysfunction.

Director: Dustin Guy Defa. 10 min. 2011.

ME THE TERRIBLE

Featuring stop-motion animation and a soundtrack made up entirely of audio from early 20th century radio shows, a little girl pirate invades New York where the essential urban turf battle is between the past and the future.

Director: Josephine Decker. 11 min. 2012. ****NY Premiere****

CIRCLES

Edited footage from a screen audition of Jesus Sanchez, the star of Fleischner's new feature *Stand Clear of the Closing Doors*, about a young autistic boy who runs away from his family and lives on the NY subway for 11 days.

Director: Sam Fleischner. 5 min. 2012.

****World Premiere****

PEOPLE PARADE

A surreal comedy about the end of the reign of a long-running television variety show (reminiscent of early David Letterman)

features Peruvian daredevils The Peanut Butter Brothers, a haggard showgirl named Dee and more delightfully bottom barrel show business folks.

Directors: Chris Maggio, John Wilson. 23 min. 2012. ****NY Premiere****

FRI, SEP 14, 9 PM & SUN, SEP 16, 3 PM

Kuichisan

Gorgeous yet audacious documentary images of Koza — a town in Okinawa, Japan that is not quite Japanese and not quite American — are filmed in 16mm by Sean Price Williams in Maiko Endo's breathtaking directorial debut. The camera spies on Eléonore Hendricks, as an ill-at-ease American wanderer, and follows a solemn 10-year-old boy who observes in wonder from afar. The little boy also partakes in enchanted mob rituals with other abandoned children, as the film pushes the boundaries of magic, nature, observation and alienation. The Copenhagen International Documentary Festival has called it "the discovery of the year."

Director: Maiko Endo. 76 min. 2011. 35mm.

SAT, SEP 15, 5:30 PM

Open Five 2

Made over the course of three years, there is a visible evolution of the content and style in this film as it moves through Kentucker Audley's roots in the post-collegiate wanderings of mumblecore towards a new deftness in depicting details of intimacy and drama. Audley reveals in his fourth film to be an American director with Rivette's interests in improvisation and experimentation as well as Cassavetes' interests in dangerously utilizing his own relationships to plunge depths of raw emotion. Starring Audley, Caroline White, Jake Rabinbach and Z Behl.

Director: Kentucker Audley. 65 min. 2012. BluRay.

SAT, SEP 15, 7:15 PM

Marvin, Seth and Stanley

Good natured Marvin (Marvin Gurewitz) summons estranged sons Seth (Alex Karpovsky), a smug careerist going through a divorce, and Stanley (Stephen Gurewitz), a delicate aspiring actor, for a father-son bonding fishing trip that totally falls apart. Filmed on 16mm, this comedy looks like a lost '70s road movie but is the clear inheritor of *Curb Your Enthusiasm's* tonal mixture of upbeat cheer with unbridled narcissism, embarrassment and painful reveals. Karpovsky—known for his work in *Girls*, *Tiny Furniture* and his own films—gives the best performance of his career so far, in a role that was written for him by co-star Stephen Gurewitz. "It's the kind of observational comedy that most observational comedies aren't—because this one is based in actual observation, in an unsparing intimacy regarding the characters, a pitch-perfect ear for the lifetime of emotion packed in an offhanded remark, and a patiently avid camera-eye that follows the characters insistently and pounces on quiet moments of revelation." —Richard Brody, *The New Yorker*

Director: Stephen Gurewitz. 76 min. 2012. HDCam.

SAT, SEP 15, 9 PM

Sun Don't Shine

A sweaty fever dream, this beige and garish-colored Florida noir was filmed under the oppressive bright light of high noon on 16mm by Jay Keitel. After producing and acting in dozens of indie films, Amy Seimetz makes her directorial debut with this lovers-on-the-run film starring Kate Lyn Sheil and Kentucker Audley, who both give astonishing, unforgettable performances as a couple caught in an electric current of panic while trying desperately to escape everything. "In short, what Seimetz accomplishes is a unity of camera style, acting style, editing style, and narrative rhythm; it's no small feat to make a small film this smartly assured... All of this is laid out with the efficiency of good cheapo B noir; there's more than a hint of Poverty Row craft to the way *Sun Don't Shine* compacts its pulp premise." —Ignatiy Vishnevetsky, MUBI

Director: Amy Seimetz. 82 min. 2012. HDCam.

New York City Short Film Festival

The New York City Short Film Festival is back for its 8th year! With a lineup of films from around the world, the diverse group of selected shorts includes films in the categories of drama, comedy, documentary, animation, lgbt, foreign language and student. NYC Shorts is committed to screening the most visually, politically and creatively daring shorts we can without sacrificing quality for quantity.

Visit www.nycshorts.com for details on each program.

FRI, SEP 28, 8 PM — **Program A**

SAT, SEP 29, 7 PM — **Program B**

SAT, SEP 29, 9 PM — **Program C**



STONY ISLAND

SAT, SEP 8, 7 PM & 9:30 PM

Stony Island

Director **Andrew Davis** in person!

"Bouncy, lively, engaging... An easy-going, cheerful movie that captures a city's spirit with a certain refreshing cynicism." — Roger Ebert

Fifteen years before director Andrew Davis set Tommy Lee Jones in pursuit of Harrison Ford in *The Fugitive* he made his directorial debut with *Stony Island*, capturing the vibrant music scene of Chicago. Laid back and visually rich (thanks to cinematographer Tak Fujimoto), the film follows Richie and Kevin as they gather together musicians to form a supergroup in the hopes of scoring the gig of their dreams. Finding time between their day jobs, they meet up in the parking garage of a funeral home to practice. Davis's affection for Chicago (which is also evident in his later films), the talented cast and the great music make *Stony Island* a cinematic experience you won't want to miss.

Director: Andrew Davis. 97 min. 1978. 35mm.

THU, SEP 13, 7 PM

Eurythmics Live

Rare 35mm film screening of 1987 concert film!

Unavailable save for a costly old VHS tape, this concert film captures The Eurythmics at the height of their musical super powers. Centered around the duo's performance in Sydney, Australia as part of their 1987 Revenge Tour, you'll see live versions of the hits with Annie Lennox commanding the stage and David Stewart mastering the synths.

Director: Geoff Wonfor. 90 min. 1987. 35mm.

WED, SEP 19, 7:30 PM

Gone with the Pope

"It was like Duke Mitchell had seen *The Godfather* and said, 'Hey, I'm an Italian, I can do better than that.'" — Bob Murawski

Actor/crooner/co-star-of-Bela Lugosi Meets a Brooklyn Gorilla/auteur-behind-Massacre Mafia Style, Duke Mitchell

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slings his heart and soul into a kidnap caper with a difference: a gangster (Mitchell himself) leads a plan to ransom the Pope himself. Every inch a happily crass product of the mid-Seventies, but with a homemade touch pushing it to grotesque extremes, the film was restored by Oscar-winning editor of *The Hurt Locker* Bob Murawski.

Director: Duke Mitchell. 83 min. 1976/2010. 35mm.

THU, SEP 20, 7 PM

Tropicália

Tropicália brings a contemporary look at the important cultural/music movement, which exploded in Brazil in the late 1960s. It mixes newly recovered archive material and interviews with the icons of the movement such as Caetano Veloso, Gilberto Gil, Tom Ze, Mutantes and others.

DJ Joel Stones of Tropicália in Furs will spin music from the period in the cafe after the screening.

Director: Marcelo Machado. 87 min. 2012. DigiBeta.

FRI, SEP 21, 7 PM

They All Laughed

Peter Bogdanovich will appear in person for a special screening of the director's cut of *They All Laughed*, his great New York City based comedy starring Ben Gazzara, Audrey Hepburn and John Ritter.

Director: Peter Bogdanovich. 115 min. 1981. 35mm.

THU, SEP 27, 7:30 PM

Cristian Nemescu: Short Films

Cristian Nemescu was a rising star in Romanian cinema in the early 2000s. Following a successful series of short

films that were screened at international film festivals, Nemescu was editing his first feature, *California Dreamin'* in 2006 when he was killed in a car accident. The film, a darkly humorous exploration of post-Communist Romania, Kafkaesque bureaucracy, cultural clash and the American dream, won the Prix certain regard at Cannes in 2007. Nemescu's tragic death cut short a promising career within the flourishing "Romanian New Wave" in cinema. Cinebeats presents three short films by Cristian Nemescu as a tribute to this director and his full body of work. Rarely screened and unseen by most Americans, these films will be appreciated both by fans of *California Dreamin'* and Romanian New Wave in general.

Mihai & Cristina, 2001, 15min.

C Black Story, 2003, 15min.

Marilena from P7, 2006, 45min.

All films screened from a digital format.

Co-presented by Cinebeats.



And while Mr. "No Respect" could easily qualify as the whole show, he's backed by an AP-level supporting cast: shock-comic Sam Kinison (in a rare film appearance) as a shell-shocked history prof, Robert Downey Jr. as a Marxist-spouting misfit and Kurt Vonnegut as himself. Featuring an overachieving early score by Danny Elfman, supplying merry marching-band exuberance to complement the hijinks.

"This is exactly the sort of plot Marx or Fields could have appeared in. Dangerfield brings it something they might also have brought along: a certain pathos." —Roger Ebert

Director: Alan Metter. 96 min. 1986. 35mm.

MON, SEP 10, 7:30 PM

Private School

Phoebe Cates and her libidinous boyfriend Matthew Modine are in the joyous throes of first love, that is until Cates' arch-nemesis tries to steal Modine, triggering a war of bare-breasted proportions. Far from the first teen sex comedy to come along, this one is set apart by the charming young leads, a hilarious supporting cast and a genuinely light-hearted attitude. More live-action cartoon than smut, this is the kind of film in which human beings make "hubbadah hubbadah hubbadah" noises and contort their faces to Stooges-level grimaces throughout the many deliriously lewd set-pieces. And it features Sylvia "Emmanuelle" Kristel as the sex education teacher!

WED, SEP 12, 7:30 PM

Go Ask Alice

Discussion with **Amy Sedaris** (schedule permitting) and **Jill Sobule** to follow the screening of this made-for-TV movie, hosted by Meet the Lady's **Tom Blunt**.

Based on the supposedly anonymous diary that was poured over by every teenager at some point, this adaptation gets away with more than you'd expect from a made-for-TV movie. Alice, bummed about her social standing at a new school, goes to a party and is dosed with LSD. Vows to never do it again quickly turn into regularly tripping with bad-beau Richie, stealing pills from her parents (William Shatner as dad) and worrying over pregnancy scares. She runs away and gets involved with a dark scene, finally ending up on the street until preacher Andy Griffith comes to her aid. Your chuckles will be tempered with moments of enthralled fright!

Director: John Korty. 74 min. 1973. 16mm.

FRI, SEP 21, 10 PM

Teen Witch

Cindy Valentine, who wrote some of the songs and has a cameo as Shana, (the pop star with the magical jacket), will be in person for the screening!

Conceived as a clone of *Teen Wolf*, *Teen Witch* is a prosaic execution of about every trope familiar to metaphorical cinematic depictions of puberty. It centers on the lowly, unpopular Louise, who possesses the powers of a witch, unbeknownst to her until her sixteenth birthday. This discovery equips her with the social prowess all lowly, unpopular high schoolers desire, and *Teen Witch* depicts Louise's transition to an unironically popular and sexually desirable teen witch with great subversiveness and at least two incredible sequences beholden to no other film. 80s high school camp of appreciable pedigree, and an early 90s Cinemax staple, *Teen Witch* is an unexpectedly inventive and playful artifact of the 1980s.

Director: Dorian Walker. 90 min. 1989. 35mm.

SAT, SEP 22, 7 PM

Class of Nuke 'Em High

Director and Troma Co-Founder **Lloyd Kaufman** in person for post-screening Q&A!

Tromaville High School is the site of a post-nuclear nightmare after radiation from the nearby power plant seeps into the school's water supply, turning the honor society (the only dweebs dorky enough to use drinking fountains) into the mental and murderous Cretins. And when radiation seeps into the school's marijuana supply, the former haven of academia becomes a thunderdome of drugged-out mutants, radioactive bikers and monstrous fetuses. No clique is safe from complete subhumanoid meltdown! A '80s video-store classic, this exhilaratingly tasteless, splatterific satire stands among the best of Troma Entertainment's gloriously lowbrow output.

Directors: Richard W. Haines and Lloyd Kaufman. 85 min. 1986. 35mm.

SAT, SEP 22, 9:30 PM, \$13 TICKET INCLUDES ONE BEER.

Grease 2 Sing-Along

30th Anniversary Screening!

Hey cool riders – it is time for an extra-special *Grease 2* Sing-along! Whether you're a Pink Lady, a T-Bird, or an overlooked geek, you'll get your kicks belting out "Score Tonight" and "Reproduction". Michelle Pfeiffer stars as Stephanie Zinone, a girl sick of the High School bad boys and ready for a devil in skin-tight leather. Cute but nerdy Brit Michael Carrington (Maxwell Caulfield) is determined to be That Guy, practicing his motorcycle tricks and acting the aloof rebel. Talent shows, luaus, choreographed bowling, biker stand-offs – Do it for our country! For this interactive screening we'll have door prizes for those in costume plus all kinds of surprises throughout the screening!

Director: Patricia Birch. 115 min. 1982.



Even when you're supposed to be all grown up, September still seems to remind you that the summer time slack-off is finished and it is time to buckle down and get some stuff done. It will forever be time to go Back to School. We mark the occasion with an offering of high school movies loaded with irreverent, hormone-dripping, drug-experimenting teenagers. No popularity contest involved – nerds, bullies, jocks, burnouts, witches and mutants beyond classification are all welcome!

Programmed by Andrew Miller, Clyde Folley, Cristina Cacioppo, Leo Goldsmith, Rumsey Taylor and Tom Blunt.

THU, SEP 6, 7:30 PM

Cooley High

Ubiquitously referred to as "the black *American Graffiti*", *Cooley High* is a romp in vignettes capturing 1960s Chicago, complete with a hip Motown soundtrack. Written by Eric Monte (*Good Times* co-creator) and directed by Michael Schultz (*Car Wash*), the movie follows the exploits of Preach (Glynn Turman) and Cochise (Lawrence-Hilton Jacobs), pals that blow off class in favor of the zoo and commit other minor offences all for their own enjoyment. Things get dicey when they cross paths with a more serious criminal element, and they find themselves dodging the revenge-seekers. With a charming cast and good writing, *Cooley High* deserves more attention as a classic from the 70s.

Director: Michael Schultz. 107 min. 1975. 35mm.

FRI, SEP 7, 7 PM

Three O' Clock High

Actor **Casey Siemaszko** in person for a post-screening Q&A!

It's *High Noon* on the schoolyard as likeable nebbish Jerry Mitchell (Casey Siemaszko) unintentionally irks brass-knuckled sociopath Buddy Revell, earning him a date with an ass-whipping in the parking lot come three o'clock. Taking place over the course of a single school day, the film follows our underdog's desperate attempts to weasel out of his fate: failed escape plots, throwing himself in detention and even hiring out a hitman. Director Phil Joanou keeps things hyper-kinetic (he cites *After Hours* as a reference) and high school hallways have rarely looked so off-kilter and nightmarish, with each ticking clock more menacing than the last. Non-stop foreboding provided by Tangerine Dream's insistent synth score and DP Barry Sonnenfeld, happy to show off his skills with the dutch angle in one of his first non-Coen Brothers related gigs. "One hint that this is slightly more subversive than the average bland teenpic: Steven Spielberg, the executive producer, asked to have his name removed from the credits." —Jonathan Rosenbaum

Director: Phil Joanou. 97 min. 1987. 35mm.

FRI, SEP 7, 9:30 PM

Back to School

Nouveau riche tycoon Rodney Dangerfield enrolls in college to keep an eye on his downtrodden son in this peerless big-man-on-campus comedy. With a script co-written by Harold Ramis, *Back to School* is an unrivaled showcase for Rodney's talents, with an endless barrage of his signature Borscht-Beltian rapid-fire quips ("The football team at my high school, they were tough—after they sacked the quarterback, they went after his family").

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