

WINNIPEG FILM GROUP'S

CINEMATHEQUE

JULY / AUG 2011 PROGRAM

NEW WORLD DOCUMENTARIES | SHORTS, ARTIST TALKS & LIVE FILM PERFORMANCES
CANADIAN AND INTERNATIONAL FEATURE FILMS

NEW WORLD DOCUMENTARIES

BEAUTY DAY

DIR. JAY CHEEL | 2011 | CANADA | 104 MIN

> FRI AUG 5 TO SUN AUG 7 – 7:00 PM

> WED AUG 10 & THU AUG 11 – 7:00 PM

> FRI AUG 12 – 10:00 PM

> SAT AUG 13 & WED AUG 17 – 9:00 PM

Beauty Days is a hilarious portrait of cable access star Ralph Zavadil, a man who pushed the limits of TV further than the Winnipeg-based Pollock and Pollock show. "What motivates someone to snort eggs through their nostrils, ski off a rooftop or attempt to remove a swimming pool cover through the most reckless method imaginable? Welcome to the mind of Ralph Zavadil, better known by his fans as Cap'n Video. Years before *Jackass* and the YouTube era of instant fame, Zavadil's 1990s cable access TV show brought him notoriety—but the self-produced program was abruptly cancelled after an unfortunate Easter stunt involving chocolate, an obese rabbit and cute puppies. Over a decade has passed since that doomed skit, and Cap'n Video is eager to don his specialized lightning helmet one more time. Blending vintage video footage of Zavadil's stunts with his present attempts to stage an anniversary special, Jay Cheel delivers a Herzog-inspired adventure of a pioneer living life on the edge, filled with humour, heart and its share of bodily fluids." – Alex Rogalski, Hot Docs

PLAYS WITH:

Score for a Duel

(dirs Curtis L. Wiebe & Marlon Wiebe, 2010, Canada, 1:30 min)

Swing you coward swing!



ADMISSION

\$8 GENERAL | \$7 STUDENTS & SENIORS | \$6 FILM GROUP & CINEMATHEQUE MEMBERS

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\$1 of each admission goes toward our capital improvements, aimed at making your experience at the Cinematheque even more satisfying.

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NUMBER 40045468

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WINNIPEG, MB R3B 1H3

INFOLINE: 204-925-3457

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NEW WORLD DOCUMENTARIES



THE NATIONAL PARKS PROJECT

DIRS. ZACHARIAS KUNUK, JOHN WALKER, PETER LYNCH, LOUISE ARCHAMBAULT, CATHERINE MARTIN, DANIEL COCKBURN, KEVIN MCMAHON, STURLA GUNNARSSON, HUBERT DAVIS, SCOTT SMITH, STEPHANE LAFLEUER, JAMIE TRAVIS, KEITH BERHMAN | CANADA | 2011 | 127 MIN

> FRI JUL 1 TO SUN JUL 3 – 7:00 PM

> WED JUL 6 – 7:00 PM

In 2010, to mark the 100th anniversary of the National Parks in Canada, 13 acclaimed Canadian directors created a series of beautifully photographed films interpreting the country's national parks. Each work was created together with three musicians; the artists were all given five days in a national park, to collaborate on a film and soundtrack inspired by the environment. Covering all of Canada's provinces and territories, the collection highlights the diversity of this massive country's landscape, from the lush mystery of the Pacific rainforest, to the fragile dunes of the Maritime coast, to the epic rivers and mountains of the Canadian north. In total, the project features the work of 52 artists. Musicians include Sam Roberts, John K Samson, Christine Fellows, Melissa Auf der Maur, Kathleen Edwards and many more.

"4 stars! Often mesmerizing, the results are nature films like none you've ever seen." – Jason Anderson, EYE



THE TOPP TWINS: UNTOUCHABLE GIRLS

DIR. LEANNE POOLEY | 2009 | NEW ZEALAND | 84 MIN

› SAT JUL 30 – 7:00 PM & 9:00 PM

› SUN JUL 31 – 7:00 PM

› WED & THU AUG 3 & 4 – 7:00 PM

› FRI & SAT – AUG 5 & 6 – 9:00 PM

Back by popular demand, *The Topp Twins* is the highest grossing documentary ever released in New Zealand and a festival award winner around the world. Directed by former Winnipegger Leanne Pooley, *The Topp Twins* is the remarkable personal story of two yodelling, country singing and dancing, lesbian twin sisters from New Zealand named Jools and Lynda Topp. Known for their comedy routines and political activism, they have performed around the world for over 25 years. The film covers their life story beginning with their happy upbringing on a Waikato dairy farm to marching in political protests in the 1980s.

"Intimate and surprisingly touching... A funny and soulful portrait that's bound to make you a fan." –

Time Out / New York

PLAYS WITH:

yaya/ayat

(dir. Shimby Zegeye Gebrehiwot, 2010, Canada, 5:30 min.)

yaya/ayat explores identities, being lost in translation and distance.



POSITION AMONG THE STARS

DIR. LEONARD HELMRICH | 2010 | THE NETHERLANDS
111 MIN–INDONESIAN W/ENGLISH SUBTITLES

› FRI AUG 19 & SAT AUG 20 – 7:00 PM & 9:15 PM

› SUN AUG 21 – 7:00 PM

› WED AUG 24 & THU AUG 25 – 7:00 PM

This stunning, Sundance award-winning documentary explores the intimate daily life of an Indonesian family of the Sjamsuddin clan. "Grandmother Rumidjah, a devout Christian woman from the countryside, tries to valiantly navigate a rapidly changing, and, oftentimes, violent and ruthless society. Routinely at odds with her two grown sons, Bakti and Dwi, both of whom have converted to Islam and are raising their children Muslim, Rumidjah's most profound tussles and conflicts arise with her teenaged granddaughter Tari, orphaned since age five. The film embraces a wealth of universal themes. The crushing effects of poverty, the seduction of materialism, the death of tradition, the lure of religious militancy on the poor, and teenage drift and rebellion, to name a few, all are woven into the film's richly crafted fabric." – Jay Antani

"Foregoing interviews and voice over narration, Position Among the Stars allows each exquisite detail to come together and construct a rich mosaic of Indonesia today. The result is poignant, breathtaking, and a stellar cinema verité triumph." –

Sundance Film Festival



IN HEAVEN, UNDERGROUND: THE JEWISH CEMETERY IN BERLIN-WEISSENSEE

BRITTA WAUER | 2010 | GERMANY | 90 MIN–GERMAN,
RUSSIAN AND ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

› FRI AUG 26 TO SUN AUG 28 – 7:00 PM

› WED AUG 31 & THU SEPT 1 – 7:00 PM

› FRI SEPT 2 TO SUN SEPT 4 – 7:00 PM

In Heaven Underground is an enchanting journey into history that celebrates life and the immortality of memories. North of Berlin's noisy city centre, surrounded by a jungle of trees and lush foliage, lays the peaceful and secluded 130-year-old Weissensee Jewish Cemetery, the oldest Jewish cemetery still in use in Europe. Its 100 acres hold 115,000 graves and a meticulous archive record. The cemetery has never closed, and was one of the few institutions to remain in Jewish hands during the Nazi regime. Award-winning director Britta Wauer's charming portrait creates a serene experience following a delightful array of characters from around the world: mourners, tourists, and a young family residing at the cemetery, a third-generation gravedigger and an ornithologist studying rare birds of prey.

"A beautiful, often even a cheery film." – Frankfurter Rundschau

SUITE SUITE CHINATOWN

DIRS: LESLEY LOKSI CHAN, LILLIAN CHAN, ARAM SIU WAI COLLIER, HEATHER KEUNG, SERENA LEE, HOWIE SHIA, JOYCE WONG | 2010 | CANADA | 40 MIN

▶ THU JUL 7 – 7:00 PM

Introduced by director Aram Siu Wai Collier

In *Suite Suite Chinatown*, seven artistically diverse, award-winning Chinese Canadian filmmakers from the Greater Toronto Area are asked: "What is your Chinatown?" Their responses are woven into an interesting multi-genre cinematic vision of Chinatown where anything is possible and the unexpected shall be expected. *Suite Suite Chinatown* proffers a place where disposable materials take on mythic qualities; where family histories and personal memories unfold in pixilated layers; where the history of any Chinatowns anywhere can be turned on and off like a light switch. Despite their different approaches to the Chinatown theme, these second-generation filmmakers are unified by a nostalgic concern for Chinatown's past, present and future.



PLAYS WITH:

A New Year Cake

(dir. Aram Siu Wai Collier, 2011, Canada, 23 min)

A New Year Cake is a film profile of a grandmother, Pau Pau, and her family observed through created fictions, recreated facts and lived events set against the backdrop of Lunar New Year celebrations in San Francisco. Using a collaborative approach between the participants and director to create the film, *A New Year Cake* focuses on simple tasks that take on larger meaning through themes of independence, aging, legacy, and food.

About director Aram Siu Wai Collier: Chinese and English/Dutch, Aram Siu Wai Collier was born and raised in San Francisco, where he studied film and worked on the independently produced PBS documentaries *Refugee* and *Who I Became*. He holds an MFA in film production at York University.

Suite Suite Chinatown is generously sponsored by the Manitoba Asian Heritage Society and the Winnipeg Chinese Cultural Centre.



HEIDI PHILLIPS: MYSTERIES OF LIGHT

► FRI JULY 29 – 7:00 PM

Heidi Phillips sifts and searches through old films and found footage, lifting imagery and sound to recycle into her own layered and loosely structured narrative works. Increasingly, she is using old technology such as radios and television sets as sculptural objects within the space. Her use of moving images has progressed into a more tactile approach with the physicality of the film medium itself. These found-footage and hand-processed films entice the viewer into an alternate reality where sailboats have character and disembodied arms have hope.

The program will conclude with the premiere of Phillips' latest film series based on 8mm found footage bought from "Klass 'A' Auctions" in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.



Heidi Phillips: Mysteries of Light is a retrospective look at Winnipeg filmmaker Heidi Phillips' career in conjunction with her recent award, the **Manitoba Film Hothouse Award** for Creative Development. This award, designed to provide recognition to the depth of local directing talent Manitoba has right here at home, is funded with the generous support of the Province of Manitoba.

About Heidi Phillips: Influenced by the likes of Peter Tscherkassky and Janet Cardiff, Heidi Phillips' art practice straddles experimental film and installation art. A practicing filmmaker and curator, Phillips has been involved with a variety of projects including the recent multimedia installation *Residual*, which uses experimental darkroom techniques to manipulate footage of abandoned farms, shacks and churches. She recently curated the program *Breath/Light/Birth: Spirituality in Experimental Cinema*, which was presented at Cinematheque in 2010, and has served as a programmer for the WNDX festival. Her film work has been screened in such festivals as Transmediale (Berlin) and Images (Toronto). She completed her MFA from Transart Institute in Austria in August of 2008.

» **Tribute to Scissors** (1999, 3:20 min) This very rare first video was shot on a 3/4" U-matic camera and edited using tape to tape. The sound track is live foley using scissors and was created for Alex Poruchnyk's video class at the University of Manitoba's School of Art.

» **Isolating Landscapes** (2007, 5:00 min) *Isolating Landscapes* is a short experimental film which includes found footage of landscapes, sailboats, and people washing in water. Thematically, the work seeks to describe detachment and loneliness.

» **Spin** (2010, 3:10 min) After a guest visit to Winnipeg Heidi was inspired by Toronto super 8 filmmaker John Porter's 'Cinefuge' films where he swings the camera around himself. "In '*Spin*' I attempted to do the opposite by fastening the camera on myself and spinning my little actors around me. This resulted in intervalometer mayhem showing images ranging from spinning smiles to impatient waiting for the next go around."

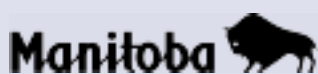
» **Direction** (2005, 10:30 min) *Direction* is an experimental documentary that explores the parallel between physical and spiritual directions. Both film and video are used to reach the desired visual effect. Video projections are shown through glass and water which is then refracted onto a screen where it is shot using 16mm film. The result is both captivating and restful as the light creates many different shapes which are then mixed with the grain of film. Descriptions of physical directions and tellings of experiences with God are spoken from many different characters throughout the piece. Thematically *Direction* deals with a personal desire to feel at home, whether it is on the physical or metaphysical level.

» **Discovering Composition in Art** (2008, 2:00 min) *Discovering Composition in Art* uses found footage as source material for various darkroom experiments. These failed attempts to capture "good composition" race before the viewers' eyes like flashing lights. "By using some of these guides we can create exciting art from the world around us."

» **Revival** (2009, 8:00 min) A short 16mm experimental film about isolation, risk and rescue, the film is derived from super 8 films I found while thrift store shopping in Montreal. "Watching them I was most drawn to the images of helicopters and the barren landscapes. I reprinted the imagery using various darkroom techniques and hand processed the results. Throughout the process I found myself surprised with the results time and time again, which motivated me to experiment even further.

» **The Last Harvest** (2010, 6:00 min) An experimental drama in which a man rustles about a vacant farmhouse in search of an object once treasured. As he explores his surroundings he is confronted with the memories that linger on.

» **Skydive** (2011, 5:00 min) A metaphorical reflection on risk and the faith that it demands, using found archival footage to create a story of jumpers who contemplate whether God will be their parachute. Artfully scored and edited, the film creates a thoughtful space, suggesting a move towards the unknown.



MAGICAL FEMINISM



* CURATED AND INTRODUCED BY CORAL AIKEN

> THU AUGUST 18 – 7:00 PM

Fevvers, the most famous aerialiste of the day; her slogan, 'Is she fact or is she fiction?' And she didn't let you forget it for a minute; this query, in foot-high letters, blazed forth from a wall-sized poster. – Angela Carter, *Nights at the Circus*

Like literature, film's favourite subject is identity. Film is distinct from literature in the representation of the mind. In literature the text can easily move between reality and magic because the medium remains constant. Taking cues from literature the films in this screening rework Magical Realist devices to reveal the interior world of their characters.

The films in this program represent a contemporary trend in filmmaking, Magical Feminism. Where Magical Realism gives agency to the interior world of the character by physically manifesting thoughts and memory, Magical Feminism offers an expansion of narrative realism, an opportunity to explore new territory and elaborate on the known understanding of feminist film and the mind. Films made by women and focused on female characters in this program explore representations of interiority through dance, movement, sound and images. – Coral Aiken

Fair Trade

(dir. Leslie Supnet, 2009, Canada, 4:30 min.)

A young woman experiences heavy nostalgic trauma, as she purges herself from the materiality of her past. *Fair Trade* is a story of one woman's quest for a psychedelic transformation in an age of overconsumption and greed.

Wanda & Miles

(dir. Lesley Loski Chan, 2007, Canada, 12 min.)

Wanda and Miles move a lot. But moving isn't easy when you've got a heavy suitcase and a heavy heart. . . . not to mention a big hole on your head.

Rainbow Warrior

(dir. Tina Romero, 2009, USA, 15 min.)

Students at a private academy for girls express resistance to the current totalitarian regime through dance.

The Red Hood

(dir. Danishka Esterhazy, 2009, Canada, 9 min.)

A dark re-telling of the classic fable Little Red Riding Hood set in the Canadian prairies during the Great Depression.

The Dream Theatre

(dir. Anne Koizumi, 2011, Canada, 17 min.)

The Dream Theatre is an underground cinema that employs a technology to directly project dreams in real-time, from a sleeping human 'dreamer'. The audience is given access to the thoughts of this dreamer, as the imagery is transposed from the mind into a film on screen.

The Air Inside Her

(dir. Darya Zhuk, 2010, USA, 7 min.)

An intimate sketch of a little girl's understanding of life and death.

57 Ways

(dir. Sharlene Bamboat, 2009, Canada, 4:30 min.)

A girl is obsessed with her vaginal odour. She tries different common methods of getting rid of her odour, but to no avail. In the end she decides to take drastic measures.



About Coral Aiken: Coral Aiken is a filmmaker and choreographer originally from Winnipeg. Her post secondary background in Modern Dance and Ballet has inspired a filmmaking practice rooted in corporeal poetics, and multi channel modes of performance. In her films, Aiken explores themes of nostalgia and memory, with surreal elements rooting her work in Magical Realism. Aiken holds a Masters of Fine Arts in Film Production from York University. She is the Education Coordinator at LIFT in Toronto and instructs workshops in hand processing. Aiken recently produced the short *Big Muddy* with director Jefferson Moneo, which was selected for official competition in the Cinefondation program at the 2011 Cannes Festival.

CANADIAN & INTERNATIONAL FEATURE FILMS



SON OF THE SUNSHINE

DIR. RYAN WARD | 2009 | CANADA | 88 MIN

➤ FRI AUG 12 TO SUN AUG 14 – 7:00 PM

➤ WED AUG 17 – 7:00 PM

Former Winnipeg actor Ryan Ward gives a tour de force performance in his powerful feature debut about a young man named Sonny who is struggling with Tourettes syndrome and family conflicts with his mother and sister. Sonny spends his savings to undergo an experimental procedure that promises to eradicate his symptoms but it also steals a former gift for healing. He meets Arielle, a lost soul like himself, and experiences love for the first time. But as his “normal” life begins to unravel, Sonny realizes that perhaps his journey was less about becoming normal than voyaging back to himself, uncovering dark family secrets and discovering who he is and where he came from.

“The film’s final frames are sublime; heart wrenching magic....Son of Sunshine is the kind of film we should embrace.” – Toronto Star

**Following the Friday, Aug 12 screening, Ryan Ward and several independent Winnipeg actors will discuss creative acting in independent films.*



SMALL TOWN MURDER SONGS

DIR. ED GASS DONNELLY | 2010 | CANADA | 75 MIN

STARRING PETER STOREMARE, JILL HENNESSY, STEVE MCINTYRE, JACKIE BURROUGHS

➤ FRI AUG 26 & SAT AUG 27 – 9:00 PM

➤ WED AUG 31 & THU SEPT 1 – 9:00 PM

➤ FRI SEPT 2 & SAT SEPT 3 – 9:00 PM

A modern gothic tale of crime and redemption about an aging police officer from a small Ontario Mennonite town who hides a violent past until a local murder upsets the calm of his newly reformed life. Beautifully photographed and paced, *Small Town Murder Songs* features a star performance by Coen Brothers regular Peter Stormare (*Fargo*, *The Big Lebowski*) as a small town detective who is haunted by his past. His troubles deepen when he becomes involved in investigating a mysterious murder where the partner of a woman he previously had an affair with is the prime suspect.

“Haunting...totally captivating.” – Huffington Post

“A must see fresh take on crime and redemption.” – Toronto Star

JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26	27	28	29	30	1 7:00 PM National Parks Project	2 7:00 PM National Parks Project
3 7:00 PM National Parks Project	4	5	6 7:00 PM National Parks Project	7 7:00 PM Suite Suite Chinatown	8	9
10	11	12	<i>Official Venue for the Winnipeg Fringe Theatre Festival</i>			16
17	18	19				23
24	25	26	27 7:00 PM 90 Second Quickie Contest	28 7:00 PM Member Screening: Torn	29 7:00 PM Heidi Phillips: Mysteries of Light	30 7:00 PM The Topp Twins: Untouchable Girls 9:00 PM The Topp Twins: Untouchable Girls
31 7:00 PM The Topp Twins: Untouchable Girls	1	2	3	4	5	6

AUG

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31	1	2	3 7:00 PM The Topp Twins: Untouchable Girls	4 7:00 PM The Topp Twins: Untouchable Girls	5 7:00 PM Beauty Day 9:00 PM The Topp Twins: Untouchable Girls	6 7:00 PM Beauty Day 9:00 PM The Topp Twins: Untouchable Girls
7 7:00 PM Beauty Day	8	9	10 7:00 PM Beauty Day	11 7:00 PM Beauty Day	12 7:00 PM Son of the Sunshine 10:00 PM Beauty Day	13 7:00 PM Son of the Sunshine 9:00 PM Beauty Day
14 7:00 PM Son of the Sunshine	15	16	17 7:00 PM Son of the Sunshine 9:00 PM Beauty Day	18 7:00 PM Magical Feminism	19 7:00 PM Position Among the Stars 9:15 PM Position Among the Stars	20 7:00 PM Position Among the Stars 9:15 PM Position Among the Stars
21 7:00 PM Position Among the Stars	22	23	24 7:00 PM Position Among the Stars	25 7:00 PM Position Among the Stars	26 7:00 PM In Heaven Underground 9:00 PM Small Town Murder Songs	27 7:00 PM In Heaven Underground 9:00 PM Small Town Murder Songs
28 7:00 PM In Heaven Underground	29	30	31 7:00 PM In Heaven Underground 9:00 PM Small Town Murder Songs	1	2	3

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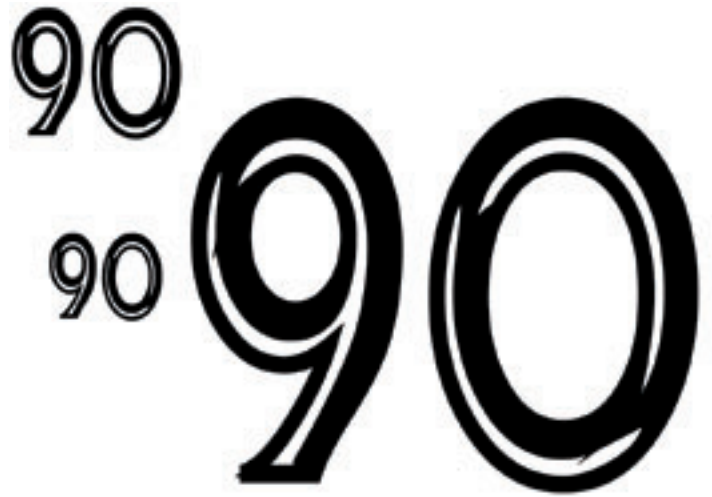
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- ▶ \$125 UNLIMITED ANNUAL
- ▶ \$55 TEN SHOW PASS



Members!

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Expires August 31/11 Proof of Membership will be necessary. Special events excluded.



90 SECOND QUICKIE FILM CONTEST

▶ WED JULY 27 – 7:00 PM

The Winnipeg Film Group once again presents the 90 Second Quickie Filmmaking Challenge! This is an open call to all Canadian filmmakers to make a short film, no longer than 90 seconds. There are no requirements, strings attached, or creative must-haves; the only rule is to keep it under 90 seconds. Excellence is of course recommended. Films must be dropped off at the Winnipeg Film Group's production office by July 13 at 4 PM. The final screening will be at Cinematheque on July 27 at 7 PM. Now get filmmaking!