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PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST:

MEDIA ALERT:

2013 ROVING EYE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL KICKS OFF WITH “WATERFIRE: ART & SOUL OF A CITY” DOCUMENTARY AND AWARD-WINNING PROGRAM OF INTERNATIONAL SHORTS

WHAT: The 8th Annual **Roving Eye International Film Festival**

WHEN: April 14, 2013; starting at 1:00 p.m.

WHERE: Roger Williams University, 1 Old Ferry Road, Bristol, RI

WHO: FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF) and Roger Williams University (RWU)

HOW MUCH: Free

WHY: To celebrate the art and craft of the international filmmaking.

From cutting-edge documentaries to narrative films whose stories have been ripped from the headlines, the eighth annual **Roving Eye International Film Festival** promises to be a portal for discovery to film-lovers across the region. The popular and acclaimed event, celebrating global cinema and artists, will take place **April 14-19 & 28th**, and is presented by a collaboration between **FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF)** and **Roger Williams University (RWU)**. More than 50 international films will be showcased, many United States premieres. *All screenings are free to the general public* and will take place on the campus of Roger Williams University in Bristol, R.I. at the Global Heritage Hall and the Mary Tefft White Cultural Center. The Festival's slogan for 2013 is “**You Know You Want to Look.**”

SPECIAL PROGRAMMING, Sunday April 14, 2013

Location: Global Heritage Hall, Atrium

1:00 p.m.

CELEBRATING A LIFE: JOSHUA B. STEIN

Roger Williams University President Donald Farish and members of the Stein family will hold a service to celebrate the life and work of Professor Joshua Stein, who died Sept. 8, 2012. Stein, a former columnist for The Jewish Voice & Herald and longtime member of its editorial board, served in the university's history department for 43 years. Open to all, the service will honor and remember Stein, who was a beloved RWU colleague, professor, friend and supporter of the Roving Eye Festival.

2:30 p.m.

CONFLICT / RESOLUTION THROUGH A GLOBAL LENS

Location: Global Heritage Hall, 01

What makes us who we are as human beings? How are we linked? What do we share in common? These are stories of comedy, drama, passion and redemption from spaceship Earth.

Introduced by **Jonathan Friesem**.

ART IS A VERB | Sky Sabin

10 min. USA, 2013

This short Rhode Island documentary asks for advice from three people who have inspired the filmmaker: Steve Connor (author & owner of Connor Guitars), Martin Keen (Founder & CEO of Focal Upright Furniture), and Mike Fink (RISD Professor, Author).

THE OTHER SIDE | Khen Shalem

22 min. Israel, 2011

A simple soccer ball sparks an unusual friendship between two young boys on either side of the Israeli and Palestinian separation wall. Can this wordless and gaze free relationship over come the wall's towering presence?

The filmmaker will be in attendance.

PRIVATE SUN | Rami Alayan

25 min. Palestinian Territories, 2011

Mariam is instructed by her doctor to sunbathe in order to reverse the vitamin D deficiency that is causing her a bone illness. But with nosy neighbors, an overbearing sister-in-law and Israeli surveillance planes, private moments under the sun are precious and rare.

REVOLUTIONARY MEMORIES OF BAHMAN WHO LOVED LEILA | Farahnaz Sharifi

15 min. Iran, 2012

It is 1978. Tehran in bloodshed. The young Bahman falls in love with Leila, the sister of his martyred friend. Unrests in the streets, unrests in the hearts. And a revolution makes the people attached and detached.

- **Montreal World Film Festival** 2012
- **Edinburgh International Film Festival** 2012

CALCUTTA TAXI | Vikram Dasgupta

20 min. Canada / India, 2012

A young Art College student Aditya Chaterji finds his backpack and belongings stolen on the day of a political strike called by the infamous political party of Calcutta. Meanwhile Bakul Bihari faces the opportunity of a lifetime to win big for his glorious though covetous efforts to help a poor boy in distress. Cab driver Rasul Ahmed discovers a bomb in his backseat at a congested traffic signal in an extremely unpredictable and sensitive slum area of Calcutta. Set in the grimy backdrop of a city going through a political crisis, Calcutta Taxi unravels the story of three lives that coincide and affect each other. Each one having lost and found some things in this chance encounter of life.

DVA | Mickey Nedimovic

26 min. Germany, Croatia, 2012.

Croatia, 1993. Two marksmen - Robert, a Croat, and Stojan, a Serb - wander aimlessly through the desolate countryside. When their paths unexpectedly cross, they are suddenly met with a common obstacle.

About our Guest Host:

Jonathan Friesem is an award-winning producer and media educator from Israel. He is the manager of the Media Education Lab at the Harrington School of communication and Media, the University of Rhode Island. As part of his doctoral research Jonathan studies the psychological and sociological effects of youth media. His goal to bridge cultures around the world is being realized in the Harrington School community media outreach with youth video

production initiatives - starting fifteen years ago working with Arab and Jews adolescents till his recent workshop with First Star URI Academy with RI foster kids.

4:45 p.m.

VISIONS OF LIGHT: THE STORY OF WATERFIRE

GUEST SPEAKER PROGRAM

Location: Global Heritage Hall, 01

Introduced by two time Emmy award-winner **Joseph "Joe" A. Rocco** and WaterFire Executive Artistic Director, **Barnaby Evans** who will be on hand to speak about the film, the Waterfire artistsic event and to answer questions.

WaterFire: Art & Soul of a City | Joe Rocco

59 min. USA, 2012

WATERFIRE has captured the imagination of more than 15 million, gaining national and international attention. This documentary takes viewers behind the scenes of WaterFire Providence, one of the world's most extraordinary events, with its sparkling bonfires and enchanting music, all in brilliant high-definition. See spectacular video from WaterFire in Rome, Singapore and other U.S. cities.

How did it start? Who are the people who make it happen? It is all covered in this extraordinary film along with the rich history of this popular 18 year-old spectacle. Find out what inspires the artist, Barnaby Evans, who talks about his initial vision for WaterFire, where it has been and where it is headed

About our Guest Speakers:

Barnaby Evans is an artist who works in many media including site-specific sculpture installations, photography, film, garden design, architectural projects, writing and conceptual works. His original training was in the sciences, but he has been working exclusively as an artist for more than twenty-five years. Evans created WaterFire in its first version in 1994 in Providence as First Fire to celebrate the tenth anniversary of First Night Providence. In June 1996, he created Second Fire for the International Sculpture Conference and the Convergence International Arts Festival in Providence. With hundreds of volunteers and the broad support of the community he established WaterFire as an on-going installation in 1997. Evans has created installations of WaterFire in Columbus, Ohio and in Kansas City, Missouri. Evans is currently exploring art installations for a number of other cities including St. Petersburg, Barcelona, Seoul, Hiroshima, Rome, Padua and Venice.

Joseph A. Rocco is President of RocJo Productions, Inc., a television and DVD/video production company, which also specializes in event coordination. Mr. Rocco is a three-time New England Emmy award nominated and two-time New England Emmy award winner for his work as an outstanding reporter and executive producer of various sports television. As an event planner and coordinator, Mr. Rocco and his staff produce the popular and highly successful Newport Summer Comedy Series, created in 2001, in conjunction with the Comedy Connection. Mr. Rocco was a popular and highly respected television sports anchor and reporter for NBC 10, WJAR-TV, from 1985 to 1997.

6:30 p.m.

OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION

Location: Global Heritage Hall, Atrium

Join as we celebrate the 8th Anniversary of the Roving Eye International Film Festival, a unique collaboration between Roger Williams University and Flickers: Rhode Island International Film Festival. All programming for the Festival has been produced by students in the Curation and Film Production Class: *Paul S. Bickford, Craig J. Cole, Matthew J. Connolly, Mackenzie J. Doyle, David Galante, Alec S. Giovino, Jennifer Iacobino, Trevor J. Mackinnon, Xuan (Susan) Nguyen, Taylor Noel, Nick Palermo, James Payne, Timothy Ragan and Nicholas Souza*

ABOUT ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY:

Roger Williams University is ranked by U.S. News & World Report as eighth among comprehensive colleges in the north. Roger Williams offers undergraduate and graduate programs in the arts and sciences, architecture, business, construction management, education, engineering, historic preservation, justice studies, legal studies, visual arts studies and law. For more information, go to: www.rwu.edu.

ABOUT FLICKERS: RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL:

The **FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival** (RIIFF) has secured its place in the global community as the portal for the best in international independent cinema, earning the respect of domestic and foreign filmmakers, filmgoers and trend watchers. This confluence of art and commerce brought together world-class celebrities, award-winning filmmakers, new talent and audience members in record numbers last year. Ranked as one of the top-12 festivals in the United States, RIIFF is one of 75 festivals worldwide that is a qualifying festival for the Academy Awards through its partnership with the **Academy of Motion Pictures Arts & Sciences**.

For more information about the **FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival**, running Aug. 6-11, 2013 at **The Vets** (formerly Veterans Memorial Auditorium), please visit www.RIFilmFest.org or call 401.861.4445.