

RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

2006 DAY-BY-DAY CALENDAR

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10TH

LOCATION: SHOWCASE CINEMAS AT PROVIDENCE PLACE, PROVIDENCE

Afternoon, TBA

MICHAEL CORRENTE RETROSPECTIVE

"Outside Providence"

Michael Corrente, director

From by book of the same name by Peter Farrelly

96 min. USA, 1999

Cast • Alec Baldwin, Sean Hatosy, Amy Smart

Set in 1974 Pawtucket, Rhode Island, Tim Dunphy is a teenage slacker and stoner who is part of a dysfunctional lower-class family which includes his widowed, ill-tempered, bigoted father, his wheelchair-bound younger brother Jackie and their one-eyed, three-legged dog. After Tim and his stoner friends get into trouble one-too many times with the law, his father sends him off to Cornhill Academy, a prep school in Cornwall, Connecticut for his senior year where Tim meets new friends and gets a new view on life and his own existence. A touching coming of age film that is sure to resonate.

LOCATION: FEINSTEIN IMAX THEATER PROVIDENCE PLACE, PROVIDENCE

9:30 – 10:20 a.m.

KIDSEYE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Children's Program A

"The Little Matchgirl"

"Ice Cream"

"Smile"

"All Aboard"

"Lost in the Woods"

10:30 – 11:20 a.m.

KIDSEYE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Children's Program B

"The Little Matchgirl"

"The Run"

"One Rat Short"

"Love Letter"

7:20 p.m. – 8:40 p.m.

Feature Documentary:

"Three Women and a Chateau"

Catherine Ryan, Gary Weimberg, directors

80 min. USA 2006

The Heiress. The Countess. The Doctor. Although they never met, these 3 women shared a place and a passion: Chateau Carolands, a 100 room architectural masterpiece in Hillsborough, California; the 2nd largest private home in the United States; and a three dimensional window into the last 100 years of American history.

The story of Chateau Carolands is like a Greek tragedy with a twist, with the chateau in the role of an enchanted magic mirror, so grand that it encourages a dangerous hubris in those who fall under its spell. We watch this drama unfold through three generations of owners of Carolands as they fall into failure and near-ruin, until the recent restoration brings about an artistic triumph for the house and current owner.

This is a story of fabulous wealth but also financial disaster, of great loves and bitter betrayals; including wars, earthquakes, a murder, a porno film, and of course great works of art and architecture. The documentary provides an insider's look at the struggles and desires of the ultra-rich in America, where even limitless money cannot guarantee that dreams come true.

9:30 – 11:00 p.m.

ROVING EYE DOCUMENTARY PRESENTATION:

“Dirt”

Jeff Bowden, Greg Biggerstaff, Directors

81 min. USA, 2005

A season inside the soul of American racing—the World Class Street Stocks—at the legendary Devil's Bowl Speedway, in Mesquite, Texas—as the racers careen on and off the track toward the 2002 season championship. Shot in mixed formats, DIRT focuses on seven competitors, including; Gayla Jones, a rookie and the only woman driver at the half-mile oval; and Travis Pace, a former champ who missed the previous season after accidentally blowing up his house.

[LOCATION: COLUMBUS THEATER ARTS CENTER, PROVIDENCE](#)

Noon – 5 p.m.

Filmmaker's Registration

4:45 – 6:30 p.m.

Short Film: “The Table”

Feature Documentary:

“Encounter Point”

Ronit Avni, Julia Bacha, Directors

89 min. USA, 2006

New England Premiere

Abstaining from the usual media headlines of hatred and conflict between Israelis and Palestinians, “Encounter Point” instead focuses on their commonality: loss. As Palestinians battle to end the occupation of an Israeli military state and

Israelis demand an end to the suicide bombings, people from both sides seek peaceful resolutions. The Bereaved Families Forum is a group of 250 Palestinians and 250 Israelis who have lost loved ones and are looking for a way to dialogue with each other to prevent the loss of more lives. Robi Damelin, an Israeli mother and activist whose son was killed by a sniper, comments, "You can sign as many peace agreements as you like, but if people don't learn to forgive each other . . . there will never be peace. It has to be between the people." Ali Abu Awwad, a Palestinian member of the Forum whose brother was killed by an Israeli soldier, is also a tireless activist who talks with both Israelis and Palestinians about his choice to resist nonviolently. Although grief is an element of "Encounter Point", hope is the more prominent emotion expressed as people from both sides put issues of anger and revenge aside in hopes of reconciliation. Politicized by their personal experiences and guided by leaders from other nonviolent movements—Gandhi, Martin Luther King Jr. and Nelson Mandela—these citizens refuse to adhere to the political rhetoric that surrounds them and instead choose to solve their problems on their own. As Ali puts it, "This is our message to the world."

In Arabic and Hebrew with English subtitles

6:45 – 8:30 p.m.

Documentary Short: "A Taste of Nate"

Documentary Feature:

"Wetlands Preserved: The Story of an Activist Rock Club"

Dean Budnick, director

96 min. USA, 2006

Featuring • Pearl Jam, 311, Moe, Phish, Richard Gehr, Mike Doughty, Robert Randolph, Spin Doctors, The Roots, Agnostic Front, Ben Harper, Blues Traveler, Bob Weir, Dave Matthews, Hanson, Kenneth Jackson, Larry Bloch, Laura Bloch & Michael Musto

North America Premiere

Wetlands. For many the name evokes a spirit, a community, an ethos. People still rave about the time they first encountered the Dave Matthews Band, Phish or Pearl Jam at the legendary New York City rock club. Some have seen its signature bus in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Still others participated in Wetlands' working groups for social and environmental advocacy.

On February 16, 1989 Larry Bloch and a team of novices fused music with activism in an altogether distinctive manner. As part of the club's monthly operating budget Bloch created and funded a not-for-profit Center for Social and Environmental Justice. Meanwhile, Wetlands served as a proving ground and nurturing environment for numerous notable acts (many riveting performances appear in the film, with music from the aforementioned bands along with Blues Traveler, Sublime, Ben Harper, 311, Ani DiFranco and many more).

The documentary is as novel and innovative as its subject matter. This is the first feature-length film produced in conjunction with the RES Media Group and it

features the work of a dozen animators who breathe new life into still photography.

WETLANDS PRESERVED shares the perspectives of staffers, musicians and clubgoers in relating the venue's development. Indeed, there is no single account of Wetlands Preserve, for the film presents many facets, many arcs, encompassing a New York story, a diary of a rock club, a look at social activism and an account of grassroots music thriving in a supportive environment, as Wetlands became a true Preserve.

9:15 – 11:00 p.m.

Feature Presentation:

CAFFEINE

John Cosgrove, director

88 min. USA, 2005

Cast • Mike Vogel, Mena Suvari, Katherine Heigl & Andrew Lee Potts

World Premiere

There's always something strange brewing at the Black Cat Cafe. During one lunchtime at this offbeat London coffee house, the relationships of the quirky staff and several couples are turned upside down by the sudden revelations of supremely embarrassing secrets and idiosyncrasies, generally having to do with their sexual behavior...and misbehavior.

A neurotic young commitment-phobe runs into his ex-girlfriend while he's whacked out on killer dope; a high strung control freak finds out that her husband-to-be is a transvestite; a hyper-possessive boyfriend discovers that his girlfriend is an ex-porn actress; and the manager's boyfriend has a ménage à trois which he says is pardonable because the girls were identical twins.

CAFFEINE is an eccentric comedy about these characters' hapless attempts to repair their fractured relationships.

[LOCATION: COLUMBUS THEATER CINEMATHÉQUE, PROVIDENCE](#)

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Hard-Boiled Short Films

"The Rip Off"

"Ten Souls Rising"

"Happiness"

"Nostalgia Boy"

"eleVATE"

"La Vida y Obra de John H. (The Life and Work of John H.)"

3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Student Film Showcase

"Das Mass der Dinge (The Measure of Things)"

"Die Trojansche Kuh (The Trojan Cow)"

“Half Term”

5:15 – 7:00 p.m.

Slightly Racy Comedies

“Fancy”

“Hubris”

“DentaMate”

“Available Men”

“Incomplete”

“Boy-Next-Door”

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Short Film: “Kali Ma”

Feature Presentation:

“Eve of Understanding”

Alyson Shelton, director

93 min., USA, 2005

When Donna's mother, EVE, dies, her sister, LISA, inherits everything of value; all Donna gets is a list of addresses and mementos from her mother's life, to be delivered to the significant people of her past. Her mother's dying wish sends Donna on a road trip from Texas to Arizona to make peace, uncover secrets, and find understanding in the life she's been dealt.

Each delivery closes a chapter of Eve's life, but it's ripping Donna's old wounds right open. Her absentee father, her evangelical aunt, people who were supposed to be there and weren't, even in death Eve can't calm the storm caused by secrets and lies. Self destructive and hurt, Donna falls off the wagon and into old familiar patterns, old familiar beds...

9:00 – 10:45 p.m.

Short Film: “Jukebox Vanishing America”

Feature Documentary:

“Pirate Radio USA”

Jeff Pearson, director

84 min. USA, 2005

East Coast Premiere

Pirate Radio USA is a look at the underground world of illegal radio stations, where people play and say what they want until the FCC catches them. DJ_s Him and Her take you on a rock-n-roll trip inside rogue stations across the country to show why Americans fight to free the airwaves.

LOCATION: CABLE CAR CINEMA, PROVIDENCE

“BETWEEN TAKES...Filmmakers' Forum”

10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Topic: "Fund Your Film! INDIE FILM FINANCING WORKSHOP"

Speaker: Stu Pollard

If you're ready to make a feature film but you're lacking that critical element of MONEY, this workshop is for you. Hosted by indie filmmaker Stu Pollard (*Keep Your Distance*, *Nice Guys Sleep Alone*), this workshop explains how to put together private equity financing for truly independent productions. Subjects covered include forming companies, writing business plans, divulging risk factors, finding and tracking investor prospects, selling shares in your film, and communicating with investors once they're on board.

On both "Nice Guys Sleep Alone" and "Keep Your Distance," Pollard shouldered writing, directing, and fund-raising duties. He is presently working as one of the producers on LA Film Festival Audience Award winner Ira & Abby, for which he wrote the business plan and designed the film's official website. He is also exec producing Dirty Country, a documentary about a colorful country singer named Larry Pierce that is being directed by Found Footage Festival founders Nick Prueher and Joe Pickett. He also acts as a consultant on other projects, specializing in distribution and private equity financing. Collectively, his business plans have raised more than \$5 million in production funds.

2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Topic: "Selling Your Dream – Creating Trailers & Promos in the A/V Marketplace"

Speaker: Chris Arnold

A 1 hr. seminar will begin with a brief history of movie marketing and the evolution of the trailer as the world's most successful and popular form of advertising. Chris Arnold, the founder of "Cimarron," one of the largest trailer companies in Hollywood, will share stories, anecdotes, and secrets of motion picture marketing learned from 25 years in the trenches creating such well AV campaigns as "Jaws," "Taxi Driver," "Close Encounters of the 3rd Kind," "Basic Instinct," "Terminator 2," "Unforgiven" and many more. He will discuss the process of creating a promo from concept to copy writing and finally into the editing room. Along the way he will explore the many styles, tricks and techniques that are used to sell you idea, promote your project, put butts in seat, and generally "sell almost anything to almost anyone."

5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Feature

"The Amateurs"

Michael Traeger, director

97 min. USA, 2005

Cast • Jeff Bridges, Tim Blake Nelson, Joe Pantoliano, Glenna Headly, Ted Danson, Patrick Fugit, William Fichtner, Lauren Graham, John Hawkes, Jeanne Tripplehorn
Steven Weber & Valerie Perrine

Michael Traeger's directorial debut *The Amateurs* is a hilarious, sexy comedy about this small town's attempt to make what becomes the world's most innocent adult film. The quest begins innocently enough with Andy (Jeff Bridges) seeing that sex is everywhere; in the paper, all over town, everywhere. It's a multi-billion dollar industry, and better yet, one of its more popular forms is the amateur

variety. And Andy and his friends are indeed amateurs, so why shouldn't they be able to strike it rich in this booming industry? *The Amateurs* is a sweetly comic film that plays with the conventions of filmmaking and the movie business all while having fun with its good-hearted characters.

One of the cast members will be in attendance.

7:00 – 8:45 p.m.

Feature Presentation:

"Land of the Blind"

Robert Edwards, Director

102 min. 2006

Cast • Ralph Fiennes, Lara Flynn Boyle, Donald Sutherland, Tom Hollander

New England Premiere

A tyrannical monarch who represses free speech and thinks little of his citizenry is ultimately overthrown by a radical rebellion that promises to return power to the people. However, in this post-revolutionary world, do the new leaders create a better society or do they simply become just like those they replaced? History shows that we could be describing any number of events: the Bolshevik Revolution and the formation of the Soviet Union; the rise of the Nazis in Germany; Castro's overthrow of Batista in Cuba; the Ayatollah Khomeini's overthrow of the Shah of Iran; and the advent of the Taliban in Afghanistan. Each of these major geopolitical and social earthquakes took shape thanks to nationalistic movements growing out of the depths of oppression. Similar events create the backdrop for first-time feature writer/director Robert Edwards' startling political satire *Land of the Blind*, in which Ralph Fiennes plays a soldier who begins questioning his government after he befriends a political prisoner (Donald Sutherland). When the soldier helps the dissident overthrow the government, he soon discovers the truth in the old dictum: absolute power does, in fact, corrupt absolutely. *Land of the Blind* takes place in an unnamed country during an unspecified time period, but its all too timely look at terrorism and revolution-encapsulated within the framework of a memory play-will seem eerily familiar to most. Edwards has created a stylish and complex drama that captivates from its opening moments and keeps its audience thinking long after the credits roll.

[LOCATION: JANE PICKENS THEATER, NEWPORT](#)

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Short Films: "The Cole Nobody Knows", "Shipwrecked"

ROVING EYE DOCUMENTARY PRESENTATION:

"A Life Among Whales"

Bill Haney, Director

56 min. USA, Netherlands, 2005

Weaving together natural history and biography, *A Life Among Whales* is a fascinating exploration into the life and work of whale biologist and activist Roger Payne. Payne's controversial discovery in the early 1970s that whales sing

“songs” helped ignite the modern day environmental movement. His pioneering spirit has consistently advanced the boundaries of science and activism over the last four decades. With beautiful and haunting images, *A Life Among Whales* follows one scientist’s dedication to saving the whales and forces us to question our stewardship of Earth and our co-existence with some of its most intriguing creatures.

3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

ROVING EYE DOCUMENTARY PRESENTATION:

“Flying Downhill: Bode Miller”

W.C. Rogers, Director

124 min. USA, 2006

Bode Miller is among the world’s fastest skiers and is arguably the very best American to hit the slopes and a challenge to the great legends of the sport. His style is wild and untamed, as was his childhood on a 450-acre homestead near Fanconia, New Hampshire. This film chronicles Miller’s meteoric rise in the realm of the Alpine ski race—a path beset with major injuries and alternative training methods—en route to the top of World Championship and Olympic competition.

5:00 – 6:45 p.m.

Feature Presentation:

“ears open. eyeballs, click”

Canaan Brumley, Director

95 min. USA/ Canada 2005

They have to learn everything all over again: from shoe-cleaning to ten-second showers. Only then, marching and fighting techniques are addressed. For twelve weeks, the recruits of Platoon 1141 of the U.S. Marines are subjected to the orders of screaming drill instructors. In nearly two hours of pure *cinéma vérité*, the spectator experiences them, too. No voiceover, no interviews, just the camera that stays close to the soldiers, or keeps its distance for a more abstract impression of life on the base. Rapidly edited images reflect the frenzy and the soldiers’ anxiety. During a nocturnal cleaning marathon, the fatigue is palpable. The soundtrack is largely filled with yelled orders and the soldiers’ “Yes sir, aye-aye sir.” Only a subtle musical score offers some relief. The film is divided into twelve chapters with short titles that betray a subtle sense of humour.

This film is the first half of Stanley Kubrick’s *Full Metal Jacket* brought to reality. Told in a handful of titled chapters, this portrait of soldiers in training isn’t your average documentary; with no interviews or narration, Brumley presents our characters with visual emotion and intensity. Rather than getting to know each of the recruits personally as they fight through boot camp, we travel the road with them and witness the experiences up close and personal.

Debuting director Brumley was once a marine himself, on the base where he shot his film. He chose not to focus on individual people: the soldiers are interchangeable and the drill instructors all look similar. Only briefly does he highlight the rise and fall of one ambitious soldier from the platoon; the real protagonist is and remains the army base.

7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

ROVING EYE DOCUMENTARY PRESENTATION:

“Brats: Our Journey Home”

Donna Musil, Director

98 min. USA 2005

Original World Premiere

Air Force brat Kris Kristofferson leads us on a heartfelt journey into the strange but interesting life of an American military "brat". Based on poignant and provocative interviews with adult brats of all ethnicities, including General H. Norman Schwarzkopf and author Mary Edwards Wertsch. This is the first non-fiction film to explore the peculiar subculture of brats from the child's point-of-view.

With the filmmaker in attendance

9:00 – 11:00 p.m.

Feature Documentary:

Short Film: “Katrina’s Wake”

“Vajra Sky Over Tibet”

John Bush, director

97 min. USA/Tibet, 2005

New England Premiere

VAJRA SKY OVER TIBET is a documentary feature and a cinematic pilgrimage to some of the most revered venues and festivals still surviving in Tibet. Vajra is a Sanskrit word - the thunderbolt of illumination, flashing from the vastness of an open sky. This poignant journey bears witness to the indomitable faith of its endangered Buddhist community and the imminent threat to its very survival. The vastness of the Tibetan sky, reflecting snowy mountains, rushing rivers, and turquoise lakes, leads the journey west. Responding to the denial of the human right to practice one's religion without interference, Tibetans visit these legendary sites with a defiant ardor and overt displays of devotion. As interviews were not appropriate because of likely retribution, VAJRA SKY employs the evocative voice of Tenzin Choegyal, a Tibetan in exile. Many of Tibet's most legendary musicians and singers are featured in the compelling soundtrack. *The film has received the blessing of The Dalai Lama.*

LOCATION: CASTLE CINEMA ONE, PROVIDENCE

5:00 – 6:45 p.m.

Hip, Hot & Short 2

“Musi Byt Ma (She Must Be Mine)”

“Lost Sole”

“Campaign Manager”

“The One About the Nun and the Priest”

9:00 – 10:45 p.m.

Feature Presentation:

“Disappearances”

Jay Craven, director

107 min., USA, 2006

Cast: Gary Farmer, Genevieve Bujold, Kris Kristofferson, Lothaire Bluteau, Luis Guzman, William Sanderson

“Disappearances” is a Prohibition-era whiskey-running adventure, comedy and drama, based on the award-winning novel by Howard Frank Mosher. It tells the story of Quebec Bill Bonhomme, a hardy schemer and dreamer, who, desperate to raise money to preserve his endangered herd through an unusually long winter, resorts to whiskey-smuggling, a traditional family occupation. Quebec Bill takes his son, Wild Bill, on the journey. Also, Henry Coville, an inscrutable whiskey smuggler and Rat Kinneson, Quebec Bill's perpetually disconsolate hired man. Together, they cross the border into vast reaches of Canadian wilderness for an unforgettable four days 'full of terror, full of wonder.'

LOCATION: CASTLE CINEMA TWO, PROVIDENCE

5:15 – 7:00 p.m.

Grab-bag Shorts

“Lemmings”

“The Pill”

“Benjamin's Struggle”

“Leise Krieger (Silent Warriors)”

“Titles on My Bookshelves”

7:15 – 8:45 p.m.

Short Film: “She Kills He”

THE PROVIDENCE GAY AND LESBIAN FILM FESTIVAL

“Whole New Thing”

Amnon Buchbinder, director

92 min. Canada, 2005

A Picture This! Releasing film.

(Outfest: Los Angeles Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, OUTstanding International Narrative Feature)

Brimming with dry wit and sensuality, *Whole New Thing* depicts the many life changes occurring around Emerson Thorsen, a precocious thirteen-year-old thrust from his hippie home school environment into the odd world of public school. Having a mature confidence and intellect unusual for his age, Emerson grows close to his attractive older English teacher Mr Grant (Daniel MacIvor), a private man struggling with a proclivity for bathroom encounters. Meanwhile, his seemingly carefree parents' bedroom troubles come to a head through Emerson's growing obsession with Mr. Grant. Amnon Buchbinder is a fresh, smart, and sweet coming-of-age story about family, love, lust and missed connections.

LOCATION: COURTHOUSE CENTER FOR THE ARTS, KINGSTON, RI

7:00 p.m.

The Art of the Short

"Jane Lloyd"

"End of A Dog"

"Thirsty"

"The Run"

"Lucky"

"Why the Gown"

"The Wraith of Cobble Hill"