

## **SHORT FILMS**

### **Orchids**

Bryce Dallas Howard, director

17 min. 2006 USA

Cast: Alfred Molina and Katherine Waterston

When a lonely young woman answers a mysterious personal ad, she discovers that love is not what she expected.

### **Room 10**

Jennifer Aniston, director

18 min. USA, 2006

Cast: Kris Kristofferson and Robin Wright Penn

Frannie is a veteran nurse with a hardened heart and a crumbling marriage. It's a typical night in the ER until an unexpected relationship with a patient challenges her to rethink her decisions and choices in life.

### **For The Love of God**

Joe Tucker, director

UNITED KINGDOM, 2007

Cast: Ian McKellen and Steve Coogan

#### **US PREMIERE**

Graham lives with his tyrannical Mother and their pet Jackdaw in a Christian bookshop, trapped in the seedy outskirts of a decaying nowhere town. He and his Mother both love God... but in very different ways. Will Graham consummate his unholy fantasy and can it live up to his expectations?

### **"Matters of Life and Death" directed by Joseph Mazzello**

There was no warning, no planning, not even a real will. After the unexpected death of their parents, three siblings desperately try to maintain control of their lives, forced into adulthood by a national tragedy. They are left alone in the aftermath, overwhelmed by their individual grief, struggling to mend the broken remains of their family. "Matters of Life and Death" marks the directorial debut of actor Joseph Mazzello (Jurassic Park, Simon Birch, The River Wild) and stars Oscar Nominee David Strathairn, Rachael Leigh Cook, Joseph Mazzello, and Daniel Gillies.

### **Moi**

Yan England, director

17 min. CANADA, 2006

Cast: Emile Mailhiot, Bianca Gervais and Linda Roy

The story of Alexis (Emile Mailhiot), a 15 year old boy. Passionate about cinema and Chaplin, he dreams of becoming a film director. For Alexis, every dream is possible. But, his life will collapse the day when, through the gaze of others, he will suddenly become aware of his reality.

### **THE HAPPIEST DAY OF HIS LIFE**

Ursula Burton, director

11 min. USA, 2006

Cast: Jill Eikenberry, Seymour Cassel, Harry Groener and Michael Tucker

A light-hearted story told through a colorful lens, subtly challenges gender roles and traditions with a sense of humor. Depicting a classic, traditional wedding and following the iconic scenes from typical Hollywood wedding movies like FATHER OF THE BRIDE, THE HAPPIEST DAY OF HIS LIFE reverses both gender roles and our assumptions. With a star-

studded cast, this is an entertaining crowd pleaser that's politically relevant and appeals to anyone who's gotten married, thought about getting married, or ever been to a wedding.

Franz Kafka's Inaka Isha  
Koji YAMAMURA, director  
USA PREMIERE

A hapless country doctor describes with breathless urgency a nighttime summons to attend a young patient. Events soon take on a surreal aspect as "unearthly horses" transport him instantaneously to the bedside. The doctor, preoccupied with personal distractions and grievances against those he is employed to care for, fails to find what is revealed to be a vile, fatal wound. He is humiliated by the villagers, who are "always expecting the impossible from the doctor," and doomed to an endless return trip, losing everything.

### **Postcards From the Future**

Alan Chan, director  
38 min. USA, 2007

Cast: Robert Hughes and Cori Bright

Civilian electrical engineer Sean Everman sends 'Video Postcards' to his wife on Earth as he works to build up NASA's Moonbase. Over time, these postcards from our possible future reveal details of the grand adventure that we are about to embark on.

### **Marrying God**

Duke Johnson, director  
18 min. USA, 2006

Cast: **Alexa Vega and Ashlyn Sanchez**

In a seedy Hollywood motel where her mother works as a maid, a little girl must find the courage to confront the harsh reality of life when she discovers that nothing is quite what it seems, especially her big sister.

### **Private Life**

Abbe Robinson, director  
16 min. UNITED KINGDOM, 2006

Cast: Lucy Liemann, Toby Sawyer and Andy Henderson

Yorkshire 1952. Ruth Ackroyd, an unmarried woman in her late twenties leaves the monotony of her work in a Textile mill on a Friday afternoon and secretly takes the train to Manchester (England) where she meets a man on the platform. All is not what it seems?

### **Life Lottery**

Theresa Corrao, director  
17 min. UNITED KINGDOM, 2007

Cast: Freddie Conner, James Zager and Laura Fulton

### **US PREMIERE**

Cecilia is wilting from the heat in her domestic hell. An apparent angel of mercy comes knocking on her door offering a ticket to the kind of life she only dreamed about. Tempted by the trappings of a powerful career and the adventures of life in the fast lane, weary Cecilia signs on the dotted line and is whisked away to begin a new life. As the pressures of the new life increase it becomes apparent that this is nothing like heaven and that her angel may have been peddling something very different indeed

## **TRES**

Robert Weiermair, Paula Christensen, Anna Christopher, directors  
26 min. USA, 2007

Cast: Bill Mendietta, Peter Pasco, Laura Breckenridge and Celina Zambon  
Three unique short stories share the same heart... an intense but fleeting moment of emotional connection between two people; based on the poetry of acclaimed Argentinean filmmaker, Carlos Hugo Christensen.

## **Sexy Thing**

Denie Pentecost, director  
14 min. AUSTRALIA, 2006

Cast: Catherine McClements, Hanna Mangan Lawrence and Layla Tracey  
On a dry suburban day, a 12 year old is caught between the conflicting worlds of family, friendship and imagination. Struggling to endure a confusing love, and longing simply to be seen, the child survives by transforming pain into beauty.

## **DARKNESS OF TRUTH**

Kristian A Söderström, director  
40 min. SWEDEN, 2007

Cast: Alicia Vikander

### **US PREMIERE**

Sandra, a young female student, rents a room from Anna-Lisa – a middle-aged actress and former ballet dancer in Berlin. One day Sandra reads her landlady's diary where she expresses outright hatred towards her tenant. As their relationship has appeared good and friendly, Sandra's existence is shattered.

## **Slice**

Carmen Maria Milito, director  
22 min. USA, 2007

Cast: Vincent Pastore, Allan Wasserman, James Madio and Kathrine Narducci  
A comedy about Italian Americans where no one gets 'whacked'. Anthony Leone, a young, Italian-American film director on the verge of great success must decide whether to 'sellout' his values and lose his identity or honor his heritage and the timeless traditions of family, love and belief in the dreams of his ancestors. He gets a little help from his nutty family and the magic of intoxicatingly delicious Italian food.

## **DOCUMENTARIES**

### **The Listening Project**

Dominic Howes, director  
85 min. USA, 2007

### **WORLD PREMIERE**

The Listening Project is a captivating 85-minute cinematic journey around the world in search of the meaning of America. Filmed in 14 countries, this documentary follows four unique Americans as they travel from a Shanghai hip-hop club to a war-ravaged Kabul neighborhood to a village at the foot of Mt. Kilimanjaro, in each place asking "what do you think of America?" In beautifully-photographed locales, we encounter fascinating and diverse characters who share not only the impact of the U.S. on their lives, but also their perspectives on crumbling empires, human fellowship, and what it means to be a citizen in a globalized world.

### **The Union: The Business Behind Getting High**

Brett Harvey, director

105 min. CANADA, 2007

**US PREMIERE**

BC's illegal marijuana trade industry has evolved into a business giant, dubbed by some involved as 'The Union'. Commanding upwards of \$7 billion Canadian annually, The Union's roots stretch far and wide. With up to 85% of 'BC Bud' being exported to the United States, the trade has become an international issue. Who are the players, and when do their motives become questionable? Follow filmmaker Adam Scorgie as he demystifies the underground market and brings to light how an industry can function while remaining illegal. Through growers, police officers, criminologists, economists, doctors, politicians and pop culture icons, Scorgie examines the cause and effect nature of the business behind getting high. Nobody's innocent in this exploration of an industry that may be profiting more by being illegal.

**Mississippi Son**

Don Wilson, director

95 min. USA 2007

Born and raised on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, Emmy award winning filmmaker Don Wilson is furious. Nearly two years after Hurricane Katrina, the coast is still being ignored as the media continues to focus on New Orleans. FEMA and SBA have not come through, and the insurance companies couldn't care less. In Mississippi Son, Wilson returns to his homeland to document life on the coast after the storm and to give his people a voice in the darkness.

**View from the Bridge: Stories from Kosovo**

John Ealer, director

105 min. USA, 2007

**US PREMIERE**

In 1999 the United States and NATO went to war in Kosovo in an unprecedented exercise of military might to end ethnic violence. Six years later, we returned to Kosovo and found out that just because the bombs stop falling, doesn't mean there's peace. Told through the first person stories of Serbs, Albanians and Roma (Gypsies), VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE juxtaposes the scars and the tears, the nightmares and dreams of Kosovars as it portrays a society trying to build a future while inextricably bound to the past. Sometimes hopeful, sometimes tragic, yet always unnervingly honest, the struggle to make peace in Kosovo, captured eloquently in VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE, provides a remarkable window into the profound legacy of the politics of hate.

**Love and Marriage**

Robert Wagner, director

50 min. USA, 2007

The pros and cons of gay marriage. An in depth look at the issue and at those who are living without the rights of marriage. Is gay marriage THE civil rights issue of our time or is it merely a right denied to the gay community that will never become the norm?

**Last Call at the Gladstone Hotel**

Derreck Roemer, director

65 min. CANADA, 2007

**US PREMIERE**

When aggressive developers buy a flophouse hotel to turn it into a trendy hot spot, long-time staff and residents begin a five-year struggle to survive. Shot over five years in a cinema direct style, this film is an intimate and compelling portrait of the effects of urban

renewal upon the poor, revealing the unintentional roles we all play in the process of gentrification.

### **Escape from Suburbia: Beyond the American Dream**

Gregory Greene, director

95 min. CANADA, 2007

#### **US PREMIERE**

Suburbia, and all its promises, has become the American Dream — a lifestyle predicated on the dwindling availability of cheap and abundant oil. In *Escape from Suburbia*, director Gregory Greene introduces three engaging characters and a small town who move us from the realm of theory to the real world where an emerging movement of citizen's groups is confronting our addiction to oil with vision and courage. *Escape from Suburbia* is a wake-up call that challenges the illusion of never-ending growth and examines alternatives for a more sustainable society in the 21st century and beyond.

### **The Model Prisoners**

David Notman-Watt, director

52 min. BRAZIL, 2007

#### **US PREMIERE**

Rio de Janeiro is home to over four-thousand female prisoners serving time for armed robbery, kidnapping, drug trafficking and murder. Over five hundred are held in Talavera Bruce Womens Penal Institute, Brazil's largest. We have unrestricted, exclusive access to the prison in the weeks leading up to 'The Miss Penitentiary' beauty pageant, the search for Brazil's most beautiful prisoner. From their cells to the exercise yard, the kitchens to solitary confinement, we hear the contestant's stories. For many being part of 'Miss Penitentiary' is the most important event of their lives - a reason to stay alive.

### **This Is Nollywood**

Franco Sacchi, director

54 min. NIGERIA, 2007

#### **US PREMIERE**

The story of the Nigerian film industry, a revolution enabling Africans with few resources to tell African stories to African audiences. Despite all odds, Nigerian directors produce between 500 and 1,000 movies a year. The larger Nollywood story is intercut with the struggle of director Bond Emeruwa to complete a feature-length action film in just 9 days on the outskirts of Lagos. Armed only with a digital camera, two lights, and about \$20,000, Bond faces challenges unimaginable in Hollywood and Bollywood. Will he make it?

### **'Dalai Lama Renaissance' Documentary**

Khashyar Darvich, director

80 min. USA 2007

Narrated by Harrison Ford

Forty of the world's most innovative thinkers travel to India in the Himalayan Mountains to meet with the Dalai Lama to solve many of the world's problems. What happened was surprising and unexpected.

### **From The 50 Yard Line**

Doug Lantz, director

108 min. USA 2007

#### **World Premiere**

Live the emotional marching band story through 2 high school bands, one an Ohio championship band, the other a newly reborn city band from Los Angeles. Travel on adventures through band camp, the marching season, and 2006 competitions, and see the life-changing effects for these exceptional students.

### **No Bigger Than A Minute**

Steven Delano, director  
52 min. USA, 2006

Few people ever meet a dwarf face-to-face. In this personal journey, dwarf documentary filmmaker Steven Delano shows firsthand how a genetic mutation marks a person for life. He reveals the isolation of his school age years, his 'ludicrous' strategies to fit in, as well as some mixed blessings of dwarfism. In 'No Bigger Than A Minute,' Delano exercises his license of stature and an irreverent sense of humor to confront head-on conventional misperceptions about dwarfs. From growing up a 'freak' - a form of enforced celebrity - to finally accepting and asserting his deviance, Delano reveals the delightful, fulfilling and sometimes shocking realities that define his tip-toe existence. He further contemplates a future where genetic engineering may eliminate 'people of difference' altogether.

### **Half Life: a Journey to Chernobyl**

David Bickerstaff, director  
40 min. UNITED KINGDOM, 2006

On April 26th, 1986, reactor four at Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant explodes, sending an enormous radioactive cloud over northern Ukraine and neighbouring Belarus. The danger is not immediately communicated and the local population go about their business as usual. May Day celebrations begin, children play, and the residents of Pripjat, the town built to house the workers at Chernobyl, marvel at the spectacular fire raging at the reactor. After three days, an area the size of England becomes contaminated with radioactive dust, creating a 'zone' of contaminated land. Based on Mario Petrucci's award-winning book-length poem for Chernobyl, this film tells the story of the people who dealt with the world's worst nuclear disaster at ground level: the fire-fighters, the soldiers, the 'liquidators' and their families.

### **"Election Day" directed by Katy Chevigny**

Election Day follows a dozen voters over a single day—November 2, 2004—from dawn until long past midnight. An ex-felon in New York votes for the first time in his life at age 50, a factory worker in Oklahoma debates gay marriage with his co-workers, and a frenzied pollworker in Ohio tries to maintain her sanity amidst chaotic lines of voters. While the mainstream media focuses on "red states" vs. "blue states," Election Day moves beyond the horserace to look at the stories of the electorate itself. Through scenes that are humorous, outrageous, and eye opening, a day that begins with a profound sense of hope gives way to an unsettling view of American democracy.

### **"Tell" directed by Tom Murray**

USA, 2007, 83 min, Video

Documentarian Tom Murray (the maker of last year's Almost Myself) returns to NewFest with another timely film exploring the US military's shameful "don't ask, don't tell" policy. As in his previous films, Murray puts a human face to the issue by interviewing a diverse range of LGBT would-be soldiers and veterans, as well as representatives from organizations fighting for an end to "don't ask, don't tell," and for equal treatment and respect to those who have already proudly served. With no real end in sight to the US's current military involvement abroad, Tell adds to the debate by questioning why willing

and able potential recruits are kept from serving based on institutionalized discriminatory practices.

**“Soldiers of Conscience” directed by Catherine Ryan, Gary Weimberg**

To kill or not to kill? For soldiers, this is not an abstract question of philosophy. It is a personal, immediate and bloody responsibility. How do they, as soldiers and as human beings, make life and death decisions that they will never be able to forget or undo? SOLDIERS OF CONSCIENCE is a documentary about US soldiers wrestling with the profound question of the morality of killing in war; set during the current conflict in Iraq. SOLDIERS OF CONSCIENCE is a journey into how US soldiers are trained to kill - and a portrait of some who have chosen not to.

**“Red Without Blue” directed by Brooke Sebold,**

Identical twins Mark and Alex were born in Montana in 1983. Twenty-three years later, Mark is a gay art school student in San Francisco, while Alex has become a woman, Clair, living in New York City. Following the twins over a period of three years, Red Without Blue explores the journey each has taken - one marked by an initially idyllic all-American family that was rocked by divorce, drugs, and a joint suicide attempt, followed by forced separation and new beginnings. As Mark and Clair become adults, they reach new understandings about family, gender, identity, and the bond between identical twins who are no longer identical.

**“The Times Were Never So Bad: The Life of Andre Dubus”**

**Edward J. Delaney**, director

88 min. USA, 2007

**World Premiere**

Andre Dubus rises to become a 'writer's writer' (his stories included those made into the films 'In The Bedroom' and 'We Don't Live Here Anymore') whose stories celebrate human impulses and human tenderness as he struggles with his own demons. A tragic accident at the age of 49 forces him to re-examine his writing and whether his own life has measured up to the spirit within his own work.

**“The Dhamma Brothers”**

**Andrew Kukura**, director,

76 min. USA, 2006

**World Premiere**

East meets West in the Deep South. Behind high security towers and a double row of barbed wire and electrical fence, dwells a host of convicts who will never see the light of day. But for some of these men, a spark was ignited, and an overcrowded maximum-security prison is forever changed by the influence of an ancient meditation program. The Dhamma Brothers tells a dramatic tale of human potential and transformation as it closely documents the stories of 36 prison inmates who enter into an arduous and intensive Vipassana meditation program. It challenges assumptions about the nature of prisons as places of punishment rather than rehabilitation and raises the question: is it possible for these men, some of whom have committed horrendous crimes, to change?

**FEATURE FILMS**

**Her Best Move**

Norm Hunter, director

100 min. USA 2007

Cast: Daryl Sabara, Scott Patterson and Drew Tyler Bell

High school is crazy enough, but for fifteen-year-old soccer star SARA DAVIS (Leah Pipes), it's about to get even crazier. On the field she dances through opponents to make impossible shots on goal - skills honed by her father GIL (Scott Patterson), a pro soccer coach. Encouraged by best friend TUTTI (Lalaine) to jump-start her life outside soccer, Sara makes up for lost time and discovers there's more to life than just sports. As Gil pushes Sara to make the Development Team, her hopes of performing in the dance recital and exploring a relationship with JOSH (Drew Tyler Bell), are shoved aside. With scouts watching every shot, Sara faces the challenge of discovering who she is before making the best move of her life.

**"Suffering Man's Charity" directed by Alan Cumming**

A dark, genre-defying comedy. John Vandermark (Alan Cumming) has taken in a struggling writer Sebastian (David Boreanaz). When John discovers that Sebastian has been using him, he turns the tables on his young tenant with unexpected results. With cameos from Anne Heche, Carrie Fisher and Karen Black.

**"Intervention" directed by Mary McGuckian**

**WORLD PREMIERE**

It's a mad world - so who's to say who or what is crazy? Out of order? Or not normal? Where do we draw the fine line between what is 'funny mad' or just 'plain insane'? When does a disorder define as dysfunctional? *Intervention* turns the commonly-held concept of what is unacceptably 'crazy' on its hilarious head - and enlightens the world of rehabilitation, relapse and recovery with a little laughter, debunking the Anglo-American culture of 'therapy' along the way. **Principal Cast:** Jennifer Tilly, Andie MacDowell, Russell Means, Colm Feore, Rupert Graves, and Charles Dance.

**Something Beneath**

David Winning, director

91 min. CANADA, 2007

Cast: **Kevin Sorbo**

**US PREMIERE**

Just under your feet lurks an evil so deadly, so intelligent, it's scary. The attendees of an ecological summit are about to discover a bigger problem than global warming.

**"Tie a Yellow Ribbon" directed by Joy Dietrich**

*Featuring Kim Jiang, Jane Kim, Patrick Heusinger, Ian Wen, Theresa Ngo, Gregory Walter, Deana Jacobsen, Michael J. Bressman, Henny Russell, Eva Wu, Yoshiro Kono, Zach Roerig, Mimi Hong, Vincent Piazza, Eve Kaminsky, Johnny Wu.*

A distraught young Korean woman wanders the streets of New York. It could be anywhere, for life is in a haze. Her current roommate has more or less kicked her out of their apartment. It's just the latest abandonment for Jenny, who was sent away by her adoptive parents when she was 14 for a supposed indiscretion with her American brother. She is unique, and alone.

Writer-director Dietrich set out to make a film about the experience of young Asian-American women in the U.S. It's a sullen and moody work, inspired by statistics of depression and suicide amongst the aforementioned demographic. It's also elegant and touching.

Jenny finds a new roommate, but just as she begins to explore new relationships with the other Asian-Americans in her building, her haunted past won't let her go. Using gorgeous



location photography in tandem with an evocative soundtrack, Dietrich gives the film a lyrical quality, as we drift in and out of Jenny's dreams. The deeper we dig, though, the more we find her fears and desires are universal. It's a personal and unique vision, but it is no longer alone.

**“American Fork” directed by Chris Bowman**

In a supermarket in the armpit of the Mountain West, an enormous grocery clerk scribbles poetry. Tracy Orbison (Hubbel Palmer) is a dreamer. His outsized sense of wonder fuels a series of tragicomic adventures. First Tracy enrolls in an acting class, falling under the spell of the arrogant instructor, a Z-list actor named Truman Hope (William Baldwin). Next he befriends a young bagboy, Kendis Cooley (Vincent Caso), and begins a new project: mentoring Kendis and his skate-punk friends. He urges the teens to give up their surly ways and get high on life; the gang's mean-eyed ringleader, Shawn (Nick Lashaway), has entirely different plans. At home, Tracy fends off Agnes, his God-fearing, self-loathing mother (Academy Award nominee Kathleen Quinlan), while his sister Peggy (24's Mary Lynn Rajskub), a perennial lonely heart, at long last finds somebody to love. Through it all, Tracy struggles to pass his driver's exam, lose 'about ten pounds,' and win fame beyond his working-class job.

**“A Four Letter Word,” directed by Casper Andreas**

Casper Andreas' debut feature, *Slutty Summer*, had its RI premiere at RIIFF 2004, so we are excited to welcome him back to the festival with his sexy, appealing new romantic comedy, “A Four Letter Word,” as one of our Centerpiece screenings. “A Four Letter Word” follows an ensemble of characters in their daily lives in New York City, navigating sex, love and relationships. At the center of it all is Luke (Jesse Archer), an attractive and witty Chelsea boy who works at a sex shop with the cute gay activist, Zeke (Cory Grant). Zeke (who, incidentally, swears by hot, naked yoga) believes there's more to Luke than he lets on, masking it through one-night stands and a party lifestyle. Luke meets Stephen (Charlie David, *Dante's Cove*) at a bar, but the hunky self-proclaimed artist initially dismisses Luke as a “gay cliché.” When they later inadvertently hook up in a backroom, they figure, what the hell?, and embark on a new relationship.

**“Take” directed by Charles Oliver**

'Take' occurs over two days - one day in the present and one day in the past. Ana (Minnie Driver) drives through the desert to witness the execution of Saul (Jeremy Renner), the stranger who destroyed her life so many years ago. Saul waits out the final hours of his life. Both are caught in the memory of the day when their lives crossed paths and changed forever. Years earlier, Saul is out of a job, out of money, and out of time to pay his debts. Ana, with her young son, tries to work out her uncertain future. It only takes a moment for their lives to collide and become permanently intertwined.

**“Who Loves the Sun” directed by Mark Bissonette**

Will Morrison (LUKAS HAAS) and Daniel Bloom (ADAM SCOTT) were the best of friends. They grew up together. Went to the same schools. Liked the same records. Loved the same girls. Daniel was Will's best man at his wedding to Maggie Claire (MOLLY PARKER). Then one day Will disappeared without a word. Half a decade later he re-surfaces and sets off a tsunami of unforeseeable events. WHO LOVES THE SUN is a delightfully witty character comedy from director Matt Bissonette, featuring perfectly pitched performances, a great soundtrack from Portastatic, songs from Silver Jews, and some hilariously realistic bad fighting.

**“Man from Earth” directed by Richard Schenkman**

Professor John Oldman unexpectedly announces his resignation from the University which he teaches at. Curious as to why his friends start to fish for details and John tells them that he is immortal and cannot stay in one place for more than ten years without his secret being discovered. From the pen of legendary writer, Jerome Bixby.

**Principal Cast:** Ellen Crawford, William Katt, Richard Riehle, David Lee Smith, Tony Todd, John Billingsley, Annika Peterson

**“Partition” directed by Vic Sarin**

**US PREMIERE**

Gian and Naseem are a latter-day Romeo and Juliet. With the partition of India and Pakistan sparking bloodshed between Sikhs and Muslims, their respective people might be mortal enemies, but Gian and Naseem are determined to follow their hearts. As their love flourishes and eventually finds acceptance in Gian’s village, the search for Naseem’s family goes on, and a brief visit to see her family in Pakistan becomes a kind of imprisonment for Naseem, as her brothers and mother refuse to let her return to India. Gian sets off on a journey across a land whose wounds are still raw, hoping against hope that he can bring home peace and harmony.

**Principal Cast:** Neve Campbell, Kristin Kreuk, Jimi Mistry and Madhur Jaffrey

**FROM THE VAULTS:**

**“Speedy” directed by Harold Lloyd (1928)**

Featuring a live score by the Alloy Orchestra. Speedy is Lloyd’s last silent film and certainly one of his best. See why Lloyd was more popular than even Chaplain and Keaton at the end of the silent era. This fast paced dramatic comedy, shot in the streets of New York (Lower Manhattan—the Tribeca area) explores the theme of modernization, pitting the last horse drawn trolley in the city, against the evil forces of the transit monopoly.

**“Mary Poppins” directed by Robert Stevenson (1964)**

“You never need a reason, never need a rhyme,” to join in and step-in-time to the Sing-Along Mary Poppins brought to musical life by the award-winning score of Richard and Robert Sherman. The classic and beloved film stars film icon, Julie Andrews. Follow the adventures of little Jane and Michael Banks, wide-eyed and untidy, as they place their own unique ad for a very special nanny—and spit spot—we’re off on a jolly holiday full of tea parties on the ceiling, horse races through pavement pictures, and of course the biggest word you ever heard.

**“Viva Las Vegas” directed by George Sidney (1964)**

Lucky Jackson arrives in town with his car literally in tow ready for the first Las Vegas Grand Prix - once he has the money to buy an engine. He gets the cash easily enough but mislays it when the pretty swimming pool manageress takes his mind off things. It seems he will lose both race and girl, problems made more difficult by rivalry from Elmo Mancini, fellow racer and womaniser. Perhaps some singing will help.

**Principal Cast:** Elvis Presley and Ann-Margret

**“Jailhouse Rocks” directed by Richard Thorpe (1957)**

Vince Everett is serving a one-year jail sentence for manslaughter. While in the big house, his cellmate, a former country singer, introduces him to the record business. Everett takes to it so well that he decides to become a singer when he gets out. However, he is quickly disillusioned by the record business. But with the help of a new friend, he decides to form his own label, and soon becomes an overnight sensation. But when he becomes a superstar, will his desire for fame and money cause him to forget the people who got him there?

**Principal Cast:** Elvis Presley, Dean Jones and Julie Tyler

**WORKS IN PROGRESS:**

**"Ticks!"**

**Mary Healey Jamiel**, director

20 min. USA, 2007

**Work in Progress**

At present 717,000 Rhode Islanders are at risk of getting bitten by an infected deer tick in their own backyard. This is the story of University of Rhode Island scientist Tom Mather's work in Lyme Disease prevention.

**"Red Terror On The Amber Coast"** directed by Kenneth Gumbert

A timely and telling journey into the heart of darkness of Stalin's rise to power 1939-40. Featuring interviews with survivors of, and witnesses to, Stalin's ruthless takeover with a focus on the struggle of the Lithuanian people to assert their human rights and independence. Stalin presided over a system that used state-sponsored terror as the principal means of social control, and in the process killed off people by the millions. Through interviews with resistance fighters, deportees, and men and women who worked as slaves in the forests and mines of Siberia, the film presents a picture of the Soviets' calculated attempts to crush the people of Lithuania, their country and their culture.

*Prize-winning film-maker Ken Gumbert is Associate Professor in the Theater, Dance and Drama Department at Providence College where he also runs the movie making program. His films principally explore the lives and situations of people deprived of human, legal, and religious rights. These include two films on the life and rituals of the Ute peoples in Utah's high desert, "Between Two Worlds" and "Ritual Ways." His film, "Saving Grace," on the Soviet crushing of religious and human rights after the takeover in Czechoslovakia in 1948, was given the Gabriel Award for the best documentary shown on national television in 2005. kgumbert@providence.edu*

**"Old House Soul"** directed by Don Manley and Michel Schtakleff

The work and advocacy of Steve Tyson, an architectural preservationist in RI is explored. Both Steve Tyson and Anne "Pete" Baker use this expression to describe a sensibility, not simply about restoring an old house but rather understanding and respecting the life and history of an artifact. Every building tells a story and they hope their preservation efforts will in part, preserve that story. We in turn hope that our project will stand as homage to this passionate approach to preservation. *(This film was made possible in part by a grant from the Rhode Island Council for the Humanities.)*