

OCTOBER 17, 2008 – JANUARY 15, 2009


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Charlie Chaplin in
Monsieur Verdoux

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STARTS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17 • ONE WEEK

Patti Smith: Dream of Life

A FILM BY STEVEN SEBRING



Patti Smith In Person with Director Steven Sebring
Fri, Oct 17 at 7:15 & 9:55pm!



WINNER!
BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY (DOCUMENTARY)

2008 SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

"Hypnotic...Layered with mesmerizing recitations, music, and narration...Smith embraces darkness and melancholy in a way that's liberating and also life affirming."

—SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

"A beautiful record of her life's work ...The film should be a joy for anyone interested in pop culture of the past 40 years."

—James Greenberg,
THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

This portrait of legendary singer, artist and poet **Patti Smith** is a plunge into the philosophy and artistry of the cult rocker. Known as the godmother of punk, she emerged in the 1970s, galvanizing the music scene with her unique style of poetic rage, music and trademark swagger. We follow the multitalented and private artist over 11 years of international travel, through her spoken words, performances, lyrics, interviews, paintings and photographs. Narrated by Patti Smith, director **Steven Sebring's** documentary reveals a complicated, charismatic personality who wrestles with life's many paradoxes. Featuring band members **Lenny Kaye, Oliver Ray, Tony Shanahan** and **Jay Dee Daugherty**, plus appearances from **Jackson Smith, Jesse Smith, Tom Verlaine, Sam Shepard, Philip Glass, Benjamin Smoke** and **Flea**. (USA, 2008) **Daily: 4:30, 7:15, 9:55; plus Fri – Sun: 1:45**

www.dreamoflifethemovie.com

STARTS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24 • ONE WEEK

Fronrunners

A FILM BY CAROLINE SUH



It's politics as usual.



"Caroline Suh makes her directing debut with this intriguing look at the student-body-president election at New York's Stuyvesant High School, probably the most intense and competitive public school in the country. The campaign is dominated by semi-subterranean race and gender politics (what a surprise!) and the pressure-cooker atmosphere of Stuyvesant produces its own kind of insanity, something like your weirdest high-school memories on steroids."

—Andrew O'Hehir, SALON.COM

A smart and funny political documentary that follows the student council presidential campaign at one of the country's most prestigious public high schools: Stuyvesant High School in New York City. Shot in classic cinema verité style, *Fronrunners* follows four charming and idiosyncratic candidates as they navigate an electoral process that is said to be one of the most competitive at the high school level. These teenaged candidates face the same issues as candidates of any age, such as picking the 'right' running mate, shaking as many hands as possible, preparing for televised debates, impressing the pundits and journalistic community, addressing sensitive race-related issues, and mobilizing an apathetic voter base. A microcosm of the U.S. Presidential elections, **Caroline Suh's** film shows politicking and pluralities through the lens of the adolescent experience. (USA, 2008) **Daily: 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; plus Fri – Sun: 12:00, 2:30**

www.fronrunnersthefilm.com

STARTS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31 • ONE WEEK

Fear(s) of the Dark



"A sophisticated showcase of contemporary animation. The best short, by Mr. Burns, is a science-fiction nightmare of erotic slavery, with elements of *Alien* and Kafka's *Metamorphosis*." —Stephen Holden, *THE NEW YORK TIMES*

"Rich, inventive. Often gorgeous to look at, and clever. I don't imagine you'll want to miss this black-and-white feast." —James Van Maanen, *GREENCINE DAILY*

"Rusty alleyways and vaporous ghosts painted by the masters of dread. Razor-sharp images that will slice your eyes and nest there forever. Thrilling, disturbing and haunting." —Guillermo Del Toro, Director of *HELLBOY* and *PAN'S LABYRINTH*

Spider legs brushing against naked skin. Unexplainable noises heard at night in a dark bedroom. A big empty house where you feel a presence. A hypodermic needle getting closer and closer. A dead thing trapped in a bottle of formaldehyde. So many scary moments we have experienced at some point in our lives... Six of the world's hottest graphic artists and cartoonists have breathed life into their nightmares, bleeding away color only to retain the starkness of light and the pitch black of shadows. Includes contributions from writers and directors **Blutch, Charles Burns, Marie Caillou, Pierre di Sciullo, Lorenzo Mattotti, Richard McGuire, Romain Slocombe, Jerry Kramsky** and **Michel Pirus**. Their intertwined stories make up an unprecedented epic where phobias, disgust and nightmares come to life and reveal Fear at its most naked and intense. (France, 2008) **Daily: 5:15, 7:30, 9:45; plus Fri - Sun: 12:45, 3:00**

www.ifcfilms.com

STARTS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7 • ONE WEEK

Stranded: I've Come From a Plane That Crashed on the Mountains



WINNER!
JORIS IVENS AWARD - GRAND PRIZE
INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY
FILM FESTIVAL AMSTERDAM

"Magnificent...The survivors' tales of endurance are scary, detailed and sometimes inspiring."

—John Hartl, *SEATTLE TIMES*

"One of the greatest survival stories of all time is finally told by the survivors themselves...If this is a story that you think you know, think again...Arijon goes beyond the lurid tale of cannibalism that swept the headlines to discover the essence of this extraordinary human drama. *Stranded* is a profound parable of the human condition, as hauntingly powerful as it is true."

—SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

It is one of the most astonishing and inspiring survival tales of all time. On October 13, 1972, a young rugby team from Montevideo, Uruguay boarded a plane for a match in Chile—and then vanished into thin air. Two days before Christmas, 16 of the 45 passengers miraculously resurfaced. They had managed to survive for 72 days after their plane crashed on a remote Andean glacier. Thirty-five years later, the survivors returned to the crash site—known as the Valley of Tears—to recount their harrowing story of defiant endurance and indestructible friendship. Previously documented in the 1973 worldwide bestseller *Alive* (and the 1993 film), this shocking true story finally gets the cinematic treatment it deserves. Visually breathtaking and crafted with riveting detail by documentary filmmaker **Gonzalo Arijon** with a masterful combination of on-location interviews, archival footage and reenactments, *Stranded* is by turns hauntingly powerful and spiritually moving. (France, 2007) **Daily: 4:00, 7:00, 9:55; plus Fri - Sun: 1:00**

www.strandedthefilm.com

STARTS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14 • ONE WEEK

JCVD

A FILM BY MABROUK EL MECHRI



If you cut out the action from an action film star, what's left?

"Hilariously entertaining...In a surprising yet crafty career move, Jean-Claude Van Damme plays himself—with all his foibles in plain view—in a rollicking action-comedy examination of the nature of fame...Both a madcap tribute to the star's martial arts moves and an examination of the true essence of a hero, *JCVD* makes sure that its subject is in on the joke, immersing him into a reality similar to that found in Spike Jonze's *Being John Malkovich*."

—Colin Geddes,
SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

JCVD is an action-packed, comedic satire of the life of movie hero **Jean-Claude Van Damme** (*Bloodsport*, *Universal Soldier*), who's known throughout the world as the "Muscles from Brussels." In a bold and self-deprecating role, Jean-Claude finds himself out of money, fighting for custody of his daughter and losing every good action role to Steven Seagal. In an attempt to escape, the aging star walks away from his shrinking spotlight and returns home to his native Brussels. But when he is thrown into a real-life hostage situation, everyone sees a side of Van Damme they've never seen before as he takes on the police, battles the perpetrators and creates a media firestorm that captures the attention of the world. Directed and co-written by **Mabrouk El Mechri**. (France/Belgium/Luxembourg, 2008) **Daily: 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; plus Fri - Sun: 12:00, 2:30**

www.peacearch.com

STARTS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21 • ONE WEEK

Eden

DIRECTED BY DECLAN RECKS



How do you keep a promise unbroken?

From the producers of *Once*



"Powerful! Eileen Walsh is riveting."
—Andrew O'Hehir, *SALON*

"Eileen Walsh gives a tour de force performance."
—Patrick Huguenin, *N.Y. DAILY NEWS*

Approaching their 10th anniversary, Billy (**Aidan Kelly**) and Breda (**Eileen Walsh**) seem to have the ideal marriage. But at night, behind closed doors, Breda knows their intimate bond is slowly unraveling: she tells a friend can't remember how long it's been since they've made love. In fact, Billy has become fascinated with Imelda (**Sarah Green**), the vivacious daughter of a colleague. Breda hopes that the upcoming anniversary will provide the couple a chance to relive their earlier, carefree days together. She suggests that they go out separately with friends and meet up at the local club. At first things seem to go well, but under the prying eyes of their friends and the influence of Imelda's nearby presence, Billy begins to crumble. An intimate, universal drama about a couple in crisis, *Eden* is adapted by **Eugene O'Brien** from his acclaimed stage play and directed by **Declan Recks**. (Ireland, 2008) **Daily: 5:10, 7:30, 9:50; plus Fri - Sun & Thanksgiving Day: 12:30, 2:50**

www.edenfilm.com

STARTS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28 • ONE WEEK

Ben X

A FILM BY NIC BALTHAZAR



WINNER!
GRAND PRIZE – AUDIENCE AWARD
AND ECUMENICAL JURY PRIZE
MONTREAL WORLD FILM FESTIVAL

WINNER!
AUDIENCE AWARD AND
DIRECTOR'S CHOICE AWARD
SEDONA INT'L FILM FESTIVAL

"Buttressed by strong performances—particularly newcomer Timmermans in the lead—the film has not an ounce of fat or histrionics. Rarely has so much emotion and excitement been compressed into 90 minutes of screen time."

—Denis Seguin, SCREEN DAILY

Ben (**Greg Timmermans**) is different. His life is a universe all to itself, where he avidly plays his favorite on-line computer game in an attempt to train for and block out the reality of his daily experiences. Ben has Asperger's Syndrome, a mild form of autism that prevents normal communication and makes him ideal fodder for all the school bullies. As the bullies' relentless attacks push him over the edge and out of control, his on-line dream girl, Scarlite (**Laura Verlinden**), appears to him and helps him devise a perfect plan to confront the bullies and make them pay for their torment. Writer/director **Nic Balthazar's** dazzling debut blends fantasy and harsh social realism, based on a true story, to bring us an utterly original and important film. Belgium's Academy Award Submission for Best Foreign Language Film. (Belgium/The Netherlands, 2007) **Daily: 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; plus Fri - Sun at 12:00, 2:30**

www.filmmovement.com

STARTS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5 • ONE WEEK

Hunger

A FILM BY STEVE McQUEEN



WINNER!
CAMERA D'OR
CANNES INT'L FILM FESTIVAL 2008

"A remarkable, semi-experimental work by British artist-turned-filmmaker Steve McQueen...As an immersive work of cinema that inevitably suggests more recent headline stories about famous prisons and the dire things that happen there, it's unforgettable."

—Andrew O'Hehir, SALON

"A tour-de-force debut...Displaying a breathtaking control of image, sound, pacing and tone, McQueen delivers a precise and devastating portrait of political violence both as it is inflicted and, most especially, as it is felt."

—Cameron Bailey,
TORONTO INT'L FILM FESTIVAL

Hunger follows life in the Maze Prison, Northern Ireland, with an interpretation of the highly emotive events surrounding the 1981 IRA (Irish Republican Army) Hunger Strike led by Bobby Sands (**Michael Fassbender**). After riots erupt due to the treatment of 'non-conforming' republican prisoners, Sands reveals to Father Dominic Moran (**Liam Cunningham**) that he is going to lead a new Hunger Strike to protest their special category status. The conversation immediately intensifies into a battle of words, illuminating the prisoners' determination to begin another Hunger Strike despite the priest's questioning of their motives and morality. With an epic eye for detail, the drama provides a timely exploration of what happens when body and mind are pushed to the uttermost limit. Directed and co-written by acclaimed British artist **Steve McQueen**. (UK/Ireland, 2008) **Daily: 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; plus Fri - Sun: 12:00, 2:30**

www.ifcfilms.com

STARTS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12 • ONE WEEK

Monsieur Verdoux

A FILM BY CHARLES CHAPLIN



NEW 35MM PRINT OF CHAPLIN'S CLASSIC!

"It is a masterpiece. See it!"

—Andrew Sarris,
NEW YORK OBSERVER

"One of the most challenging
movies ever made in Hollywood."

—David Denby, THE NEW YORKER

"One of the cinema's immortal
masterworks."

—Richard Brody, THE NEW YORKER

"★★★★! There are few comedies
as resoundingly defiant. *Monsieur
Verdoux* is the spirit of modernity
taken to its darkest extreme. It may
be immortal."

—Joshua Rothkopf,
TIME OUT NEW YORK

Writer/director **Charles Chaplin** abandons his loveable Tramp character to star in this gripping and sensational story of a French Bluebeard. Set in France in the 1930s, Chaplin stars as a petit bourgeois bank clerk named Henri Verdoux. With a wife and family to support, he is thrown into desperation when he loses his job. In need of some other source of income, Verdoux marries then murders wealthy widows for their money. But a couple of his intended victims just won't die. A rarely screened, controversial black comedy based on an idea by **Orson Welles**. Says Chaplin: "It is slightly bitter humor, a satire on the inconsistency of human existence. All the values of life are underlined with a little bit of absurdity." Co-starring **Martha Raye**, **Marilyn Nash** and English veteran **Isobel Elsom**. Original musical score by Chaplin. (USA, 1947) **Daily: 4:00, 7:00, 9:55; plus Fri - Sun: 1:00**

www.thefilmdesk.com

STARTS FRIDAY, JANUARY 2 • ONE WEEK

The Secret of the Grain

A FILM BY ABDEL KECHICHE



"By the time *The Secret of the Grain* reaches its final act, our pulses are racing and our hearts are in our throats. Kechiche is that rare thing at the movies these days: an intelligent humanist."

—Scott Foundas, L.A. WEEKLY

"Brilliant! An extraordinarily rich
and human ensemble piece."

—Stephen Holden, THE NEW YORK TIMES

"Warmly magical. Suspense is as
thick and exciting as communal joy,
and a single sexy surprise proves
one of the greatest moments in film
this year." —Aaron Hills, PREMIERE

When Tunisian immigrant Slimane (**Habib Boufares**) is let go after 35 years as a dockworker, he uses his severance pay to fulfill his dreams of turning an old freighter into a restaurant with his ex-wife's renowned mullet couscous as the specialty. Meanwhile, the white financial officers and city bureaucrats place one hurdle after another before the taciturn old man. His dream seems unbelievable, but his contagious conviction and persistence work their way into the hearts of his loyal but dispersed family: the four children from his first marriage, his ex-wife, current girlfriend and her bright, outspoken daughter Rym (played to great acclaim by the stunning newcomer **Hafsia Herzi**). A touching, resoundingly humanistic drama about fate, food and family, written and directed by **Abdel Kechiche**. Winner of 4 César Awards, including Best Film, Director, Screenplay and Most Promising Actress (Herzi). (France, 2007) **Daily: 5:00, 8:30; plus Fri - Sun: 1:30**

www.ifcfilms.com

STARTS FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19 • TWO WEEKS

My Name Is Bruce

DIRECTED BY BRUCE CAMPBELL



Bruce Campbell In Person
Fri, Dec 19 at 7:30, 9:50 &
Midnight and Sat & Sun,
Dec 20 & 21 at 7:30 & 9:50!
(Schedule Permitting)

**Bruce Campbell stars as
Bruce Campbell in a film
directed by Bruce Campbell**

Fearless!

Unstoppable!

Ready for his close-up!

When the small mining town of Gold Lick, Oregon needs to rid itself of a vengeful monster, they kidnap actor **Bruce Campbell**—star of the *Evil Dead* trilogy, *Bubba Ho-Tep* and countless B-movie horror films—and recruit him to be their local savior. Mortified at first, Bruce eventually goes along with the plan, convinced that it's all an elaborate birthday present from his agent (**Ted Raimi**). But the scheme goes horribly wrong when their hero, known more for fighting directors than mythical warriors, haphazardly leads the town in battle against the beast. Confronted by a monster that's not a guy in a rubber suit, and with the blood of innocents on his hands, Bruce has to choose between the harsh reality of Gold Lick and the sanctity of his former, artificial life. A horror comedy written by **Mark Verheiden** ("Smallville," "Battlestar Galactica") and directed by Campbell. Co-starring **Grace Thorsen** and **Taylor Sharpe**. (USA, 2008) **Daily: 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50; plus Fri, 12/19 at Midnight** (Note: No 9:50 shows on Wed, 12/24 & Wed, 12/31)

www.bruce-campbell.com

STARTS FRIDAY, JANUARY 9 • ONE WEEK

The Wild Child

A FILM BY FRANÇOIS TRUFFAUT



NEW 35MM PRINT OF TRUFFAUT'S CLASSIC!

"No one but Truffaut could have made this picture...A wonderful film about the spirit of the Romantic Age."

—Penelope Gilliatt, *THE NEW YORKER*

"Truffaut tells the story simply and movingly....Endless fascinating... It is an intellectually cleansing experience to watch this intelligent and hopeful film."

—Roger Ebert

"The deepest of all Truffaut's examinations of the world of children. One of the two masterpieces of the last half of his career."

—Charles Taylor, *SALON*

Favorably compared to his masterpiece *The 400 Blows*, director/co-writer **François Truffaut** reached another milestone with the true story of Jean Itard (Truffaut), a visionary doctor who takes on the incredible task of civilizing *The Wild Child*—a young boy found living alone in the woods of France in the 1700s. At The National Institute for the Deaf and Dumb in Paris, the barely clothed and dirty young boy is admitted. Found in a forest living like an animal, the child is unable to speak, communicate or otherwise function normally. Christened Victor by the hospital staff, his case is taken up by Itard, a patient and loving doctor who is also the lone physician who believes he can transform the scarred boy (**Jean-Pierre Cargol**, in an astonishing debut) from a savage into a reasoning, civilized being. But the road to taming the beast will be a rocky one. (France, 1970) **Daily: 5:10, 7:30, 9:50; plus Fri - Sun: 12:30, 2:50**

www.thefilmdesk.com

CINE *insomnia*

FRIDAYS at MIDNIGHT

OCT 17

New 35mm print of the original
A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET

DEC 12

Anime! Hayao Miyazaki's
NAUSICAÄ OF THE VALLEY OF THE WIND

OCT 24

Cheech & Chong's
UP IN SMOKE

DEC 19

Bruce Campbell in
MY NAME IS BRUCE
Extra midnight show of our regular engagement!

OCT 31

THE CABINET OF DR. CALIGARI (1920)
Live musical accompaniment by Bonjon

DEC 26

Bruce Campbell in Sam Raimi's
ARMY OF DARKNESS

NOV 7

Jean-Claude Van Damme and Forest Whitaker in
BLOODSPORT

JAN 2

Harrison Ford in Steven Spielberg's
RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK

NOV 14

Anime! Hayao Miyazaki's
MY NEIGHBOR TOTORO

JAN 9

Ridley Scott's
ALIEN
Director's Cut!

NOV 21

Only one animal kills for sport...
Billy Mummy in Stanley Kramer's
BLESS THE BEASTS & CHILDREN

NOV 28

Kurt Russell in John Carpenter's
BIG TROUBLE IN LITTLE CHINA

DEC 5

George A. Romero & Stephen King's
CREEPSHOW

SATURDAYS at MIDNIGHT



Featuring Sins o' the Flesh LIVE!
www.sins.la