

THE VF06 INDEPENDENT VISION SHOWCASE

Wed. Oct. 25 – Sun. Oct. 29 – 2006 - TRIBECA CINEMAS 1&2 – NYC



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All programs contain films that do not currently carry MPAA ratings. While many of these films may be considered suitable for all ages, a large number of films do contain elements of violence, explicit language, and/or sexual themes and situations that may be too graphic for younger audiences. Adult discretion is advised.

The e-mail addresses provided with each project listed apply to the contact individual(s) representing that work and may not necessarily be the same as the contact info for that project's filmmaker(s).

VISIONFEST's Independent Vision Showcase is comprised solely of domestic, U.S. product. Each listing also identifies the state from which that project originates.

WEDNESDAY – OCT. 25 – 8:30pm / THEATER 2

Program 1 – OPENING NIGHT

Buried secrets, sex, murder, and naughty X'mas carols highlight this festival kick-off program.

The Shovel Dir: Nick Childs 15 min. (Narrative Short) – NY

A crime of passion. A dangerous curiosity. And a shallow grave... In a small town, some secrets are better left buried. Academy Award® nominee, David Strathairn (*Good Night and Good Luck*), stars.

the little Death Dir: Morgan K. Nichols 86 min. (Feature) – CA

Seventeen years ago, Sam's father hid a mysterious box in the walls of apartment 1412, and now Sam has come to Los Angeles to claim it. But the rooms have been renumbered and Sam's hunt soon leads him into the world of a mysterious young woman in what is ultimately "a sinister tale of a very un merry Christmas."

THURSDAY – OCT. 26 – 7:30pm / THEATER 1

Program 2 – TRIUMPH OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT

Human strength overcomes adversity, both emotional and physical, and the spirit finds triumph in the simplest things in life: those that matter most but are often taken for granted.

Flavor Dir: Paul Lipsky 2 min. (Experimental) – NY

A visual representation of minimalist music where variation and building textures are analogous to plot and theme.

Latent Sorrow Dir: Shon Kim 3 min. (Experimental) – CA

Moving Painting #7 to reach coexistent point where abstract and figure are equally fused.

Bodies and Souls Dir: Christie Herring 16min. (Documentary) – CA

Sister Manette, is a white Catholic nun running the only health clinic in rural Jonestown, Mississippi. Through intimate observational scenes of her with her patients, the film profiles her humble labors "to help save bodies, so that the souls can come alive."

Shaken Dir: Deborah Fryer 27 min. (Documentary) – CO

A logical and creative young man suffering from Parkinson's disease decides that brain surgery is preferable to lying on the couch like a vegetable for the rest of his life. He undergoes a 14-hour operation that is a cross between *The Bionic Man* and *The Far Side*, with a team of doctors listening for bad cells and implanting electrodes in his head. The results are mysterious, miraculous - and heartbreaking.

Pilar Dir: Leda Maliga 51 min. (Documentary) – CA

Pilar was born almost completely deaf and grew up expressing herself through her art in the hearing world. In her late 20's she participated in a study on the cochlear implant and began a journey into a world of sound. A heartfelt portrait of Pilar as she overcomes obstacles with inspiring humor and grace.

THURSDAY – OCT. 26 – 8:00pm / THEATER 2

Program 3 – HEARTS OF INNER DARKNESS

This collection of shorts explores what inner turmoil lurks in the hearts of some people and how these emotions often stir up acts of unspeakable violence.

Belinda's Swan Song Dir: Alicia Witt 16 min. (Narrative Short) – CA

A musical theatre singer takes the stage for her final performance in this 16 minute one-woman film.

Copperhead Road Dir: Ian Ogden 15 min. (Narrative Short) – NY

A raw and truthful look at the all too common abusive actions of a law enforcement officer who sets out to teach a drunk driver a lesson she won't soon forget. Based on a nationally publicized true story.

Slumming Dir: Seamus Smith 37 min. (Narrative Short) – CA

Evan and Bradley Strathford make their way through the decadence and filth of Los Angeles for a birthday celebration. During the night, they experience life on both sides of the economic and racial divide; as the older teaches the younger about life in the real world. When innocence suffers at the hands of the corrupt, what price must be paid to become a man?

Snapshot Dir: Andrew Lund 27 min. (Narrative Short) – NY

A famous photographer must face the reality behind his photographs or risk losing more than just his life.

Ed I Hide Dir: Len Peltier & Suzanna Laine 28 min. (Narrative Short) – CA

Eddie has had a fight with his girl. He heads to the woods to escape the conflict. But can he get away when the conflict is within?

THURSDAY – OCT. 26 – 9:30pm / THEATER 1

Program 4 – WHAT'S UP, DOC? MESSAGE AS ENTERTAINMENT

Powerful messages surrounding environmental issues, sports, war, and modern media are presented in thought-provoking, entertaining docs.

East River Skimmer Dir: Patrick Duggan 1min. (Narrative Short) – NY

A jogger along the East River stops overwhelmed by the garbage in the river. What will he do?

White Space Dir: Kip Konwiser 27 min. (Documentary) – CA

This snowboard film that explores the personalities and lifestyle of the top professional snowboarders, and features their best jumps, highest air and newest tricks from the backcountry, pipes and parks in New Zealand, Switzerland, Utah and South America.

Beyond Babylon Dir: Christie Davis 6 min. (Documentary) – CA

Past and present blend to examine the true cost of war.

Breaking News Dir: Brian Malone 70 min. (Documentary) – CO

Forces collide between the big business of TV news and journalistic ethics. Watch in great detail how TV reporters scramble to report on every tawdry detail of the Michael Jackson and Kobe Bryant trials, trying to pass them off as news. This film chronicles the vast resources the modern media corporations pour into these cases for ratings and dollars.

THURSDAY – OCT. 26 – 10:30pm / THEATER 1

Program 5 – THE HUMAN CHILL FACTOR: TWISTS OF FATE

On the surface, people often seem normal... friendly even. But throw a little twist of fate in their 'normal' lives and watch the emotional transformations that follow...

Kill Your Darlings Dir: Ben Price 7 min. (Experimental/Narrative) – IL

An experimental film revolving around the idea of sacrifice, which takes a closer look at the indistinct line between what is right, what is wrong, and what is acceptable.

Hombre Kabuki Dir: Leo Age 10 min. (Narrative Short) – CA

Lust, trust, and lucha libre. Lovers enact a game of duping and disguise with a Mexican wrestling mask.

A Coat of Snow Dir: Gordy Hoffman 75 min. (Feature) – CA

When a girl takes her video camera to her cousin's bachelorette party, the night begins as a gathering of friends, but small accidents lead to serious injury, missed connections tailspin into chaos, until the party finds the bride has fled.

FRIDAY – OCT. 27 – 7:00pm / THEATER 2

Program 6 – CINEMATIC POTPOURRI

Each of the films in this collection touches upon different genres and styles of filmmaking while keeping true to its unique signature. What they do have in common, however, is that they're amongst the best shorts in the national festivals circuit this year.

An Interlude Dir: Nicole Widmyer 6 min. (Narrative Short) – CA

This is a cinematically lush glimpse into the quiet world of an elderly woman. She escapes her lonely routine with sensuous memories, until a disturbing dream prompts change.

A Question of Loyalty Dir: Randall Wilkins 14 min. (Narrative Short) – CA

When Dr. Albert Krentz opens the door to his apartment, he doesn't realize he is about to invite more than just a stranger into his home. In the next ten minutes Dr Krentz's life will be altered forever, and all because of a question of loyalty.

Thick Dir: Ben Pierce 9 min. (Narrative Short) – CA

Betrayed by one of their own, two soldiers stranded in a bitter mountain winter must work together to outwit their enemy, and stay alive.

Circus of Infinity Dir: Sue Corcoran 10 min. (Narrative Short) – WA

Baby Violet, a human cannon ball, takes the circus stage for the first time. But where is the net that will catch her from her fall? This is the existential core of the film that leaves the audience with more questions than answers.

The Tested Dir: Russell Costanzo 29 min. (Narrative Short) – NY

Dre, 16, struggles with the possibility of joining a gang. It's the last day leading up to his initiation: to shoot a total stranger in broad daylight. Is it possible for him to make the right choice, or is the whole thing bigger than he is?

Full Disclosure Dir: Douglas Horn 16 min. (Narrative Short) – CA

Everett decides to reveal every terrible habit, attitude, and hang-up on the first date. Shockingly, women don't respond as he'd hoped...until he meets Brinn, who's willing to play his game and try for *full disclosure*.

My Backyard Was A Mountain Dir: Adam Schlachter 24 min. (Narrative Short) – CA

Told as the memory of an aging gentleman, this is the story of Adan, a Puerto Rican boy who has one day to find a home for his pet goat, Chivo, before his family relocates to New York City in the late 1950's. While searching for a new owner for Chivo, Adan discovers the promise of first love with his childhood friend, Denise, whom he will also have to leave behind.

SCREENING OUT OF COMPETITION

FRIDAY – OCT. 27 – 7:10pm / THEATER 1

Program 7 – SEARCHING FOR THAT INNER PEACE

For some, smiling is the best cure for striving toward inner peace. For others, solving a great mystery or finding comfort in spiritual practices may be the key. And then, there are those who need all of the above and the chance to make rap albums.

Smile Dir: Chris Mais 8min. (Animation) – CA

This entertaining romp utilizes motion capture and live action techniques to relate the story of a smiley face balloon and a rubber man who team up to outwit the wicked pirate toy they share their children's playroom with.

A Spiritual Journey Dir: Peter Turner 37 min. (Documentary) –TX

Two filmmakers travel border to border talking to ordinary Americans about their spirituality. From the Mexican Border in Texas to the Canadian border in Montana, they visit some of the most scenic and spiritual places America has to offer.

Wildest Dreams Dir: Ron Strobel 29 min. (Documentary) – PA

Like a bull dog that won't let go, our main character risks everything, traveling to other countries to see the adventure through to its ultimate conclusion. It is a sharp-tongued narrative about solving a mystery, the risk-reward ratio, and hope.

Chutzpah, This Is? Dir: Rick Kent 35 min. (Mockumentary) – CA

The world's first ever Jewish Hip Hop Supergroup struggles to overcome internal strife and make the music video that will save their record deal.

FRIDAY – OCT. 27 – 9:20pm / THEATER 1

Program 8 – ALL YOU NEED IS...

Most would be quick to close the above phrase with "love," as the song says... But in this collection of films, you'll discover that "love" isn't always necessarily all you need... Perhaps a little therapy might do the trick.

Almost Home Dir: Christopher St. John 4 min. (Animation) – CA

This darkly dreaming black-and-white animated music video was created to accompany the North American college radio hit, "Almost Home," by the San Francisco band, Outgrabe.

The Bread Squeezer Dir: Kasia Kowalczyk 19min. (Narrative Short) -

When Andrew's loving parents die in a tragic Christmas tree accident, he is taken in by his well meaning, but extremely regimented, Aunt Gertrude Crab. Without the warmth of his mom and dad, young Andrew leads an unremarkable life full of chronic disappointments. Until one day, when everything goes horribly wrong and horribly right in the bread aisle of Pickles, Grocery Store.

Approaching Union Square Dir: Marc Meyers 80 min. (Feature) – NY

Based on his monologues for stage, Marc Meyers's 'Approaching Union Square' is a collage of eleven tales capturing thirty-something New Yorkers struggling to find love and connection in the big city. They all cross paths on a New York City bus.

FRIDAY – OCT. 27– 9:30pm / THEATER 2

Program 9 – FRIGHTDAY NIGHT AT VISIONFEST

In what has become an annual tradition, Visionfest's Friday night program once again delves into the world of fantasy and horror, featuring a slew of familiar faces – some TV favorites, others famous silver screen slashers – in a collection of shorts that are sure to prep you for some ghoulish Halloween thoughts.

Grace Dir: Paul Solet 5 min. (Narrative Short) – CA

A woman decides to carry her dead unborn child to term, but when she delivers, the power of maternal will unleashes an unspeakable horror.

Little Victim Dir: Dean Ronalds 8 min. (Narrative Short) – AZ
Whimsically dark comedy about what lies at the end of the rainbow and the diminutive measure of a man.

Devil's Detail Dir: John Jordan 21 min. (Narrative Short) – CA
Someone is in the basement, making noises in the night. Again . . . and again . . . and again.

Legion: The Word Made Flesh Dir: Robert Sexton 26 min. (Narrative Short) – CA
A fallen Priest tries to help a Mother free her child from a demonic curse. They are lost in an occult underground where nothing is as it seems and no one can be trusted.

Penny Dreadful Dir: Bryan Norton 29 min. (Narrative Feature) – NY
Jessica and David Clausen are a young upstart couple that inherit a beautiful brownstone townhouse in NYC's West Village District. But does the house hold a terrible secret? Betsy Palmer (*Friday the 13th*) appears in a chilling supporting role.

SATURDAY – OCT. 28 – 7:45pm / THEATER 1

Program 10 – SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

Thematic links are absent here, as Visionfest puts together three distinctly different films to create an entertaining program that is filled with humor, awe-inspiring antics, and a cast of familiar faces forming a most powerful acting ensemble for a great evening of cinema.

Second Banana Dir: Fill Marc Sagadraca 2 min (Animation) – CA
A short character animation piece about a young ape that befriends an older crabby ape through an annoying game of mimicry.

Project: B-Boy / Kujo Dir: Brad Hasse 13 min. (Documentary) – MA
Project: B-Boy introduces an amazing, gravity-defying, fluid, physical art form that is currently making a worldwide comeback. 'Krazy Kujo,' a partially deaf break-dancer with a fascinating perspective of life and a matching dance style, shows us why.

Mojave Phone Booth Dir: John Putch 88 Min. (Feature) – CA
This is the story of 4 disparate people whose lives intersect at a telephone booth, 70 miles from Las Vegas, in the middle of the Mojave Desert.

SATURDAY – OCT. 28 – 10:15pm / THEATER 1

Program 11 – GROWING UP WAY TOO QUICKLY: A JOURNEY TO ADULthood

Familiar themes create a subtle link between the short subject and feature presentations in this program, where the journey from childhood to adulthood takes flight, exploring fear, insecurity, and the basic human need of having another's shoulder to lean on.

The Faith of Joey Rail Dir: Matt Robertson 7 min. (Narrative Short) – TX
Little kids, big questions, and the time in between...

Self-Medicating Dir: Monty Lapica 107 min. (Feature) – NV
A desperate mother (Diane Venora) hires a private company to kidnap her troubled son and take him to a locked-down and corrupt psychiatric hospital where he is subjected to the secret physical and emotional abuses of the institution.

SUNDAY – OCT. 29 – 8:00pm / THEATER 2

Program 12 – CLOSING NIGHT

Mistaken identities hilariously pave the way for Visionfest's closing night program... But things get pretty serious as blurred identities clash just before final curtain call.

Available Men Dir: David Dean Bottrell 15 min. (Narrative Short) – CA
A Hollywood agent (dispatched to sign a 'hot' new writer) and a sensitive gay man (waiting for a blind date), mistake each other for the person they were expecting to meet. Hilarity ensues.

The Limbo Room Dir: Debra Eisenstadt 79 min. (Feature) – NY
When an on stage rape scene sparks an offstage affair the line between reality and fiction becomes blurred in this modern day drama about life in the theater and the politics of sex.

AWARDS CEREMONY – SUNDAY – OCT. 29 – 10:00pm – THEATER 2

THE 2006 INDEPENDENT VISION SHOWCASE AWARDS

Festival statuettes, special achievement certificates, and in-kind service awards are handed out to the eligible projects of the 2006 Independent Vision Showcase. The festival will present awards in 14 categories. During the Awards Ceremony, a special "out of competition" screening, featuring the exclusive East Coast Premiere of *The Perverts* will take place.

The Perverts Dir: John Gegenhuber 30 min. (TV sitcom pilot) – CA
Pilot episode of the continuing story of Bob and Lorena Meagher, an attractive, happy, all-American couple living a lifestyle of unbridled sexual deviance during the "Camelot" years of the early 1960's. It's a wholesome, kinky, rough-and-tumble, no-holes-barred, knock-down-drag-out comedy about the crazy, inexplicable sh*t we do for love.

SCREENING OUT OF COMPETITION

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