



*Klaus at Gunpoint 9*

**KLAUS AT GUNPOINT 9 - CHRISTOPHER J GARCIA - EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
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Of late, San Jose has been a sad place. The fate of the best of San Jose's remaining Dome theatres is murky. The Winchester 21, 22, and 23 are in danger, and the 24 and 25 have now been torn down. This is a sad state for a city that has seldom done its film community right. There are three majors gets for the Film Lovers of the South Bay Area - The rise of Cinequest, the restoration of the California Theatre, and the saving of the Jose Theatre, even if it was turned into the Improv Comedy Club. There have been dozens of theatres in San Jose, and almost all the oldest are gone (well, a bunch were destroyed in the 1906 Earthquake) and many of the others have been torn down or just cannibalized over time. There were once, in my lifetime, more than a dozen operating theatres in Downtown San Jose. The Camera One art house, gone, now an art gallery. The Mexico? Closed and vacant. Nearby theatres have come and gone as well, but Downtown there are three - The Camera Three and the Camera 12 (owned by Camera Cinemas) and The California, which only shows occasionally. There were so many torn down in teh name of redevelopment.

And that's the problem.

In the heart of Silicon Valley, you're not finding a lot of concern for history. It's hard for folks like me, dedicated to our shared past, to see the disregard for our arts and cultural heritage just because a buck can be made if we put up another mall, more offices, another fucking Pinkberry.

Sorry 'bout that. I actually rather enjoy Pinkberry.

The issue is we've got so many homogenized shopping areas in this valley that we've lost the flavor of San Jose, and it's getting worse as the city scrambles to deal with lost revenue during the housing crash and terrible deals made with city workers. Increasing the Tax Base is the best way to bring that money back, and it's not easy.

But a city is not defined by its Tax Base; a city is defined by its culture, by its unique places, not by its chain restaurants. Things like the Winchester Theatres are what can put a strong definition on a city, something that San Jose is missing. We are in danger of becoming a mall, and not even a Mall with a decent 6-screen multiplex!

So, we're fighting, a lot of us. The Retrodome hopes that one of the Domes is saved, allowing them to move their Theatre and Film experience into it. They're spearheading the Save the Domes intu-

tive (<http://www.change.org/petitions/save-the-winchester-domes>) and have been running shows at the 21, which is fun, and have been drawing decent crowds. But they're still not certain that the theatres will survive.

So, the film community needs to gather around the Domes and fight, dammit! The Domes themselves are an important artifact of a time lost: the 1960s film scene in San Jose was hugely important and these are, by far, the best preserved documents of that time. Add in the Flames restaurant on the corner of the parcel that was once a Bob's Big Boy (and is one of the few remaining restaurants of its time left) and you've got one of the few areas in San Jose that still maintains a bit of the flavor of the 1960s, when San Jose still had some charm left. San Jose has always been embarrassed of its history, and for no good reason. I guess the real reason is that the folks running our fair city don't want to sit untanned in the shadow of San Francisco any longer. It's a shame, but when San Jose was firmly in the shadow of The City, we were a city that could be identified, not one of any number of other cities. We had a personality, a flavor, a style, less refined, more working class. In the 1980s, the phrase 'San Jose is Growing Up' was a rallying cry for the Redevelopment Agency to clean up San Jose's Downtown, but alas, many of the things done to clean up the city (which did need it) were destructive to the character of Downtown San Jose: wiping out many of the old Victorians and a couple of historical theatres as well. What went up in its place? Large office complexes and towers, the Fairmont Hotel. A couple of pedestrian malls, the San Jose Rep (a wonderful group, a HIDEOUS building) and out was the history, the flavor.

So, that brings me to the visual theme for this issue: Lost Theatres of San Jose & The South Bay!

So, Cinequest is happening, even while so many of us are fighting to save the Domes. It's a great festival and I've been lucky enough to play a part with teh fest for almost fifteen years now. I think we've done a really good job with our festival this year, and the shorts are really fun! I hope you'll come (and if you've got this at Cinequest, Nice to Meet Ya!)

And now, a look at Cinequest!

*So, every year Jason Wiener (@puppymeat) from Jason Watches Movies ([jasonwatchesmovies.blogspot.com](http://jasonwatchesmovies.blogspot.com)) and Chris Garcia (@johnnyeponymous) do a thing called #FakeCQSpoilers, where they come up with fake spoilers for Cinequest films based on their titles.*

*These are some 2014 #FakeCQSpoilers!*

**Christopher J Garcia @johnnyeponymous**

LIFE IS LOVE - a gritty Noir tale of a Detective looking into the connections between dating sites and Cereal ingredients ... #FakeCQSpoilers

**Jason Wiener @puppymeat**

DOM HEMINGWAY explores the famous writer's kinky, S&M side. #FakeCQSpoilers

**Jason Wiener @puppymeat**

ETERNITY: THE MOVIE just keeps going on...and on...and on...#FakeCQSpoilers

**Christopher J Garcia @johnnyeponymous**

@puppymeat I thought ETERNITY: THE MOVIE was just a feature-length Perfume Ad #FakeCQSpoilers

**Christopher J Garcia @johnnyeponymous**

ACTING LIKE ADULTS - A shot-for-remake of Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolfe with 6 year olds as the actors. #FakeCQSpoilers

**Jason Wiener @puppymeat**

A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO A SPECTACULAR SUICIDE--Spalding Gray's recently discovered last monologue is hilarious and poignant. #FakeCQSpoilers

**Christopher J Garcia @johnnyeponymous**

THE MAN BEHIND THE MASK (El Hombre Detras De La Mascara)- story of a Mexico City plastic surgeon who is not what he seems... #FakeCQSpoilers

**Christopher J Garcia @johnnyeponymous**

UNFORGIVEN is the Chris Brown story. #FakeCQSpoilers

*Winchester*  
**THEATRES**

Return @ HAMILTON AVE. THE UNION AVE.

**I YOU ONLY LIVE TWICE  
THE APARTMENT**

**II SNOW WHITE AND THE 7 DWARFS  
THE MONKEYS UNCLE**

# THE CINEQUEST 2014 SHORTS PROGRAM

All Shorts Programs will be held at the Camera 12 on Screen 7

## Shorts Program 1 - States of Mind

*Door God - US/China, 24 Minutes*

*Director - Yulin Liu*

On Chinese New Year, a little girl (Xinxin Niu) is expecting a visit from the mother she has been waiting to see for two years. When the family puts up the Door God, her mother returns, but not in the way she expected.

A beautiful, lyrical film with strong performances and exceptional cinematography. Door God leaves its viewers equally moved and heart-broken

*The Fall - Norway, 16 minutes*

*Director - Andreas Thaulow*

A couple in their late 20s plan to climb a mountain in Norway, but in this potentially deadly situation, where trust is an absolute necessity, the relationship is put to the test..

*For the Birds - US, 14 minutes*

*Director - Tara Atashgah*

Inspired by actual events, *For the Birds* brings us to Iran and the gallows as a young woman is about to be hanged. As she cries and begs for mercy, no one responds to her pleas, except for one who can not remain silent.

At once a damning commentary on the treatment of women and the tendency to avoid conflict even when the stakes are life and death, *For the Birds* is as powerful a film as you'll ever find.

*Freestate - Canada-France, 12 minutes*

*Director - Martha Ferguson*

Inspired by the remarkable short story *Space to Fall* by Melissa Webster, *Freestate* examines the relationship between a television producer (played by director Ferguson) and her driver (Stephen Chigorimbo) and the complications that can arise between two people of different background, different classes, different races, and different situations.

An incredibly acted film, and one that raises questions of all sorts, *Freestate* is a marvelous short film of culture clash and expectation.

*Insomniacs - UK, 15 minutes*

*Director - Charles Chintzer Lai*

*Insomnia* brings two troubled young people to a rooftop. Jade, played with nearly reckless delirium by Vanessa Kirby, and Theo (Henry Lloyd-Hughes) have the kind of conversation/emotional explosion only the truly sleep-deprived can fathom.

A remarkable short film that recalls the best works of Casavetes or Lars Von Trier, *Insomniacs* is a dark look at what happens to those who can't find rest.

*Ricochet - Australia, 17 minutes*

*Director - David Forster*

Peter has spent years protecting his only daughter Ginny (Eva Lazzaro) from the painful truth of their past but when his estranged brother unexpectedly arrives, the day that follows will unearth a secret long kept hidden.

A well-made family drama that examines how we keep things from those closest to us, while never losing them ourselves.



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## **Program 2 - On The Edge of Adulthood**

**Monday March 10th, 2:15pm**

**Friday March 14th, 6:45pm**

**Saturday March 15th, 1:45pm**

*A Parentless Turn of Events - Australia, 22 Minutes*

*Director - Robert Scott*

Jane is in charge of the kids, which is a good thing as her parents are dead in their locked bedroom. Like any kid in her situation, she decides to make a living as a poker player. Jane contends with nosy neighbors, and the bodies of her parents, Jane and the other children are free... sort of.

A wonderful set of performances, led by the amazing Emily Howarth, and exceptional editing and cinematography, *A Parentless Turn of Events* is a powerful film about the adaptability of children, and the meaning of duty to family.

*Dive - Canada, 18 minutes*

*Director - Kaveh Davies*

In a world where the hyper-sensitive White Eyes live a marginalized existence alongside humans, Ivan encounters a young woman who is not what she seems.

An urban fantasy that examines self-destruction and the miraculous, *Dive* combines powerful performances with smart cinematography and the kind of world-building you usually don't find in short films.

*Homesick - US, 8 minutes*

*Director Matthew Foster*

Young Molly (Kaitlin Brown) has left Australia for America. She hasn't said a word since she's arrived. Her father recognises that drastic measures are required - in this case, a trip back home... sorta.

A lovely short about how hard moving can be on kids, and the lengths parents will go to just to bring happiness back to their kids. Brown's performance, in particular, is one of the most adorable you'll ever see. There's also a cameo from one of my favorite New York restaurants - The Thirsty Koala!

*Loup, y es-tu? - France, 28 minutes*

*Director - Xavier Sirven*

A young girl (Inès Giardino) discovers a dead cow in her village. This sets her on the path as a detective to figure out what's happened, and what a farmhand might have had to do with it.

A powerful film about the inquisitive nature of children and their perceptions of the world around them.

*Ma Foret - Belguim, 7 minutes*

*Director - Sebastien Pins*

A child runs through a forest, experiencing the trees, the changing seasons, and the changing realities.

A gorgeous film accompanied by sensuous acoustic guitar, *Ma Foret* draws you in to a child's world of discovery, memory, and wonder. One of the most beautiful short films ever produced.

*Ravi & Jane - Australia, 14 minutes*

*Director - Stuart O'Rourke*

An unlikely friendship develops between Jane (Katya Harvey) and the new kid to school from Sri Lanka, Ravi (Sathya Ilanko). The two are inseparable, until their torn apart by circumstances they have no control over.

A film that alternates between the dark reality of Ravi's home and the gloriously joyful music and cinematography of their school time together, *Ravi & Jane* presents a glorious look at what friendship can mean, while never losing sight of the bigger picture of the world it is born into.

*Six Letter Word - US, 17 minutes*

*Director - Lianne Sartor*

Rumer Willis stars as Zoe, mother to a bright, if oddly-focused, son named Jax, who Zoe's mother is willing to put through a special school... for a price. Zoe does what she has to to make ends meet, but clashes with her mother, and the discovery of a 'client' as the school psychiatrist make for painful clashes.

An excellent film about how much a parent will go through to see their child through, *Six Letter Word* features exceptional performances from Willis, Josh Braaten, and especially young Rio Mangini. *Six Letter Words* is moving, touching, and more than a little inspiring.

*The Sleeping Plot - New Zealand, 5 minutes*

*Director - Dean Hewison*

A little girl's best friend is missing, and she has to come up with some sort of plan to deal with things. Unfortunately, her piggy bank is empty, and she's got funds that need raisin'!

A brilliant black comedy, and one of the smartest and best



**Program 3 - Humor Me**  
**Friday March 7th 9:15pm**  
**Monday March 10th, 4:30pm**  
**Saturday March 15th, 4:15pm**

*#twitterkills - US, 11 minutes*

*Director - Brett Sorem*

Zoe's social media life far outpaces her actual life. After an unfortunate lightning strike, things get a little more honest, and far more brutal, on her Twitter stream.

Sunah Bilsted's turn as Zoe is electric, and the script Harvard-level smart. Sarah Paulson gives a quick and exceptionally memorable cameo. Exceptionally well-paced, and just about as dark as a comedy can get without being made in Denmark, #twitterkills is one of the funniest science fiction films ever made.

*Bowling Killers - Belgium, 10 minutes*

*Director - Sebastien Petit*

Two championship bowlers are paid to take care of a guy before they play. Sadly, it turns out to be a little more difficult than they plan, with dark, and hilarious, results.

Two comic actors playing with exceptionally fun material is always a good thing, and here it's got the added bonus of a perfect setting!

*Date of the Dead - US, 7 minutes*

*Director - Joey Laura*

Sometimes, dating can be hard, especially if one of you is alive and the other is technically not. Will Jessica (Cecile Monteyne) warm up to the cold-dead Jim (Jacob McManus) by the end of their blind date?

This comedy is so smartly timed. It's a blind date short that doesn't get bogged down in all the blind date cliches. Hilarious, zombie-themed stuff!

*The Ghost Pepper Eating Contest of Jefferson County - US, 10 minutes*  
Director - Sam Frazier, Jr.

There are some things that smart people only do to prove that they can. The Ghost Pepper Eating Contest of Jefferson County documents the annual battle of human against their own digestive system in a pepper eating passion play.

Setting the stage of the conquest of the world's hottest pepper as an epic sporting event, director Sam Frazier, Jr. sets 'em up and lets his subjects knock-'em-down in this hilarious documentary.

*Olympic and Western: A Primer on the Typographic Order and an Argument for its Proper Usage in the Built Environment - US, 8 minutes*  
Director - Evan Mather

Looking at the world of lettering is sometimes confusing. Street signs are often messy, confusing ideas presented in a clear, compact manner. Join a delightfully robotic narrator on a voyage through the meaning of street signage in Los Angeles.

Director Evan Mather examines the ways we direct people to places and the style in which we do it in this off-the-wall documentary.

*Reel Life - UK, 13 minutes*  
Director - Laurence Relton

It's not easy living your life one moment at a time, but it's no easier when your life is edited like a movie, and it's even harder on those regular folk who try to date said people. This story of movie-style romance asks the question "what genre are we in, anyways?"

Playing with all our pre-existing knowledge of movies, plus our knowledge that these two are perfect for each other, Reel Life is a fun short about the best stuff in life, and the best stuff on film.

*Sumi - US, 11 minutes*

*Director - Rachael Grace*

Sumi is an artist, living with a musician in Brooklyn. There are bills to pay, so Sumi has a job teaching English using... unusual techniques. Thin walls and great curiosity lead to a budding relationship between roommates.

A fun, funny, and sweet film, Sumi is a marvelous combination of precise direction, smart cinematography and great screen-writing.

*Texas - US, 15 minutes*

*Director - Matt Johnson*

A former couple meets on the border of Texas, each with an agenda and a secret weapon to bring the other one across to them. Stubborn wounds that won't heal, and even more stubborn wearers of those wounds, keep them on their respective sides of the tracks.

A very funny and touching short about relationships, promises kept, and the lines on a map acting as a line in the sand.

*Thank You, Cabbage - US, 25 minutes*

*Director - Mitch Magee*

An author is about to embark on a book tour with her memoirs - memoirs that just happen to be a pack of lies. She spends three weeks on tour, during which her true self starts to pop out.

And there's also a wise cabbage.

This slightly surreal, and very fun, short is one of the best ever to feature a cabbage in a title role.



## **Shorts Program 4 - Animate Me**

**Thursday March 6th, 9:30pm**

**Saturday March 8th, 11:00am**

**Friday March 14th, 1:45pm**

*A Dream At The Edge of Land - US, 8 minutes*

*Director - Steve Wood*

A remarkable combination of hand-coloured 16mm film work and digital overlays of animated forms and old photos, *A Dream At The Edge of Land* is part abstract surrealist dream, part message on the meaning of the waters around us.

A strikingly beautiful film, and one that shows the power of the blending of animation techniques.

*Daddy ABC - United Arab Emirates-UK, 5 minutes*

*Director - Hamad Alawar*

It's not easy being a new parent, and often one partner will not be able to understand everything the other does in raising their kids. When you've got culturally enforced gender roles added into the mix, it makes it a little bit harder, too. In *Daddy ABC*, we see what happens when all these things come into contact.

It's a funny, fun short and presents an entire world within a home, and the timing is ideal to present this wonderful story of a Dad who is, unknowingly, in over his head.

*Drunker Than A Skunk - US, 4 Minutes*

*Director Bill Plympton*

Adapted from a poem by Walt Curtis, *Drunker Than A Skunk* shows us the life of a local drinker and the treatment he gets from the cowboy town where he hangs his hat.

Directed by the Oscar-nominated master of American surrealist animation, Bill Plympton, *Drunker Than A Skunk* is one of the most fun of all his works!



*Love In The Time of Advertising - US, 8 minutes*

*Director - Michael Berenty*

Living in a billboard ain't easy. Being the guy who has to update the ads is a full-time job, but when our hero discovers that the love of his life is across the way, he puts his job to work for him!

A delightful story of love and how we have to put ourselves out there, the gorgeous animation brings this excellent story to life!

*Put a Lid On It - US, 3 minutes*

*Director - Ellen Osborne*

A throwback to the Silly Symphonies and Merry Melodies, Put A Lid On It features a good ol' fashioned animal hootenanny!

Uproarious and a bunch of Fun, it's one of those shorts that takes joyous music and makes it even more full of absolute joy!

*Mr. Hublot - France/Luxembourg, 12 minutes*

*Director - Laurence Witz & Alexandre Espigares*

Mr. Hublot is a quirky sort with his rituals and aversion to venturing outside. A robot pet arrives, gets into everything, and turns his life upside-down.

The Oscar-nominated animated short is high on style, high on story, and is beautiful in every way possible.

*Salmon Deadly Sins - US, 7 minutes*

*Director - Steven Vander Meer*

What happens when you give an animator a huge stack of salmon coloured 3x5 cards? Well, if you're lucky, a film like Salmon Deadly Sins; a delightful trip through the seven deadly sins on a boat made of anagrams.

Featuring wonderful animation, playful character interaction, a few messages, and a raucous, banjo-driven soundtrack, Salmon Deadly Sins is an exceptional piece of animation!

*Stick Out - UK, 2 minutes*

*Director - Anthony Farquhar-Smith*

Popsicle sticks. All you need to know.

A beautiful dance of a common object, Stick Out is a ballet of the everyday.

*StrAngel - Canada/Germany, 20 minutes*

*Director - Daniel von Braun & Georg-Sebastian Dressler*

Based on Poe's *The Angel of The Odd*, Edgar is a man who refuses to accept fate or coincidence exists. He's also a guy whose best friend is a marble bust of Kant. An angel visits and sends Edgar on a journey that'll change the way he thinks.

A wonderful story told through incredible animation, *StrAngel* is twenty minutes of the unexplainably fantastic.

*Subconscious Password - Canada, 11 minutes*

*Director - Chris Landreth*

A forgotten name leads to a strange sort of unconsciousness game show based on the classic game show *Password*.

From the Oscar-winning director Chris Landreth, *Subconscious Password* is a deep-thought wonder.

*The Missing Scarf - Ireland, 7 minutes*

*Director - Eoin Duffy*

Albert, a forest squirrel, has lost his scarf. As he goes about trying to find it, he runs into other animals who have bigger things on their mind.

Adorable animation, and wonderful narration by the legendary George Takei, combine to make one of the funniest animations you'll ever see.

*The Numberlys - US, 11 minutes*

*Director - Sara Hebert*

An homage to Fritz Lang's *Metropolis*, a world without an alphabet sees five friends get together to create one in their black + white world, and end up changing everything.

From Moonbot Studios (the studio that brought us the Oscar-winner *The Fabulous Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore*), *The Numberlys* is a beautiful setting for an incredible tale.

*The Rise and Fall of Globosome - Germany, 5 minutes*

*Director - Sascha Geddert*

There's a little speck of a rock inhabited by the little tiny specks. Are they significant? Are they any different from bacteria, or are they something more?

This film which asks a lot of important questions in a small amount of time, and all with simple but effective animation.

*The Video Dating Tape of Desmondo Ray, Age 34 3/4 - Australia, 3 minutes*

*Director - Steve Baker*

Desmondo Ray is looking for love, but he's just a bit more than he would seem.

There's more than a little bit of simple insanity in this uproariously dark film about the search for love.



## **Shorts 5 - Shifted Realities**

**Wednesday March 5th, 4:30pm**

**Thursday March 13th, 9:30pm**

**Saturday March 15th, Midnight**

*A Stitch in Time (for 9.99) - US, 13 minutes*

*Director - Mu Sun*

Time travel is impossible, but popping in on the future, if just for a few moments, is the business of Stitch in Time Travel Agency. Laura goes to the discount agency to see if the guy she has a crush on at work is into her, and ends up with more questions than answers.

One of the funniest science fiction films of the year, it makes you wonder if some people just can't read the writing on the wall...

*Biographer - Russia, 30 minutes*

*Director - Viktor Gorbachev*

You even wonder what would have been if something had changed in the past? There's a company for just that, and somehow it involves a Rubik's Cube.

One of the best present-day science fiction shorts of recent years, Biographer tells a story of a man who has the power to change everyone, and doesn't want to use it anymore.

*Box - US, 5 minutes*

*Director - Tarik Abdel-Gawad*

A man interacts with a strange space: a box that moves from two-dimensions into three. He goes lots of cool things.

A fascinating film showing wonderful techniques at the same time as thrilling the audience with amazing visual wonders. A whole lot of fun.

*Cargo - Australia, 7 minutes*

*Director - Ben Howling & Yolanda Ramke*

Zombie apocalypses are never easy, and it's especially difficult when you've got a precious young daughter to take care of and you're in the middle of making The Change.

An emotional film about duty in the face of the greatest difficulties, Cargo is the only zombie film that's ever made me weep.

*Conversations About Cheating With My Time-Traveling Future Self - US, 8 minutes*  
*Director - Pornsak Pichetshote*

A guy goes back in time with a quest - convince himself that the only right thing to do is to cheat on his girlfriend.

A film that plays with the expectations of the audience from the first time they even hear the title, *Conversations About Cheating With My Time-Traveling Future Self* is a powerful document of what relationships mean, especially when they're over.

*Godel Incomplete - Australia, 13 minutes*  
*Director - Martha Goddard*

Serita is a lonely particle physicist, played by the magnetic Elizabeth Debicki. She works at the Large Hadron Collider at CERN and, oh yeah, she goes back in time and falls in love with Kurt Godel.

A magnificent tale of the solitude of the sciences, the meaning of time, and the search for love, *Godel Incomplete* is a story told beautifully across space-time.

*I'm 23 and There's a Fucking Monster Under My Bed - US, 5 minutes*  
*Director - Jeremy Ungar*

We all grow up with monsters under our beds, but sometimes they stick around well into adulthood. Sean's is still around, even after he's graduated, so he goes with the only plan he can find - get a beautiful blonde to stay the night to draw the monster out.

As fast and smart as a short film can be, *I'm 23 and There's a Fucking Monster Under My Bed* is brilliant and hilarious!

*Over the Moon - New Zealand, 7 minutes*  
*Director - James Cunningham*

The Moon was conquered by Man in 1969... and by woman in 1957. Based on Connie Radar from *The Comic Book Factory*, *Over the Moon* brings Connie (Anna Jullienne) into conflict with NASA, and her own robot co-pilot, Julius.

A funny film that takes the classic retro-science fiction look and mixes it up with actual historical science-y stuff! If there was ever a film that made the moon look like a lot of fun, it's *Over the Moon*.

*Shift - Australia, 10 minutes*

*Director - James Croke*

When a rising star in the scientific community has his funding stripped, there's only one way he can make his research happen - an elaborate heist!

Combining the best elements of science fiction and crime, *Shift* is an absolute blast and one that get you entirely caught-up in the thrill.

*Sorry About Tomorrow - US, 8 minutes*

*Director - Motke Dapp*

Time travel is possible, with proper cooling. Baldwin (John Ferguson) assists Cricket and Emily (Colleen Helm and Beth Mathews) in solving their time-travel problems. Add in Baldwin's visit to a young Emily 15 years before they meet, and you'll see why he's sorry about tomorrow.

A marvelous film, made as a part of the 48 Hour Film Project in Nashville, and one that combines tense, moody editing and effects with a subtle love story. Emmaline Weedman as Young Emily is absolutely perfect in her role.



**Program 6 - DocuNation**  
**Friday March 7th, 4:15pm**  
**Wednesday March 12th, 6:45pm**  
**Saturday March 15th, 11:00am**

*American Lawn - US, 12 minutes*

*Director - Robert Sickels*

Ever thought about how much space in America is dedicated to those patches of green in front of our houses? American Houses looks at the pleasures, the pains, and the playfulness of the ways that we interact with our grass.

A wonderful documentary from the director of the shining Sterling Hallard Bright Drake, American Lawn is an excellent example of a documentary looking at the everyday in extraordinary ways.

*Disarming Falcons - US, 13 minutes*

*Directors - Annie Nocenti & Wendy Johnson*

Falconry dates back to the dark, dim, distant past. Shot in Balochistan, Disarming Falcons looks at the practice as it survives today and the love between human and falcon.

Shot in an incredible setting with a deft eye, Disarming Falcons is an incredible documentary.

*Etched in Skin - Canada, 10 minutes*

*Director - Anne Kmetyko*

We place marks upon ourselves for all sorts of reasons, and tattoos are perhaps the most permanent of these marks. Etched in Skin films a tattoo convention featuring tattoo artists from Canada, the US, and France gathering in Quebec.

Body art is on display in one of the most fascinating documentaries about how we try and leave our impressions upon ourselves.

*Fabian Deborah - A Life For Art - US, 20 minutes*

*Director - Jessica Kaye*

Fabian Deborah was once a drug addict and gang member from East LA, until art transformed his life. Spending seven years in prison during his youth, he's used art to transform not only himself, but his community.

A documentary that is a work of art worthy of its subject.

*Herd in Iceland - Iceland/US, 29 minutes*

*Director - Lindsay Blatt*

For centuries, Icelandic farmers have allowed their herds to roam wild during the summer, then rounding them up and bringing them across the ruggedly beautiful terrain.

The relationship between the horses and Icelanders is explored in this outstanding and incredibly beautiful documentary.

*Margo - US, 11 minutes*

*Director - Frank Steifel*

Margo Amer is a hospice nurse. She also happens to be dying. We follow Margo on the final weeks of her life as she faces her fears, her faith, and her own impending death.

A powerful documentary that looks at what it is we do as we slip away.

*Sticky - Australia, 20 minutes*

*Director - Jill Rose*

How can an entire species exist on only shrub for more than a hundred years? Also, how can that species be preserved.

The amazing animated documentary of the Lord Howe Island Stick Insect's survival on Ball's Pyramid. Beautiful and poignant,





**Shorts Program 7 - Wait for it...**

**Monday March 10th, 2:15pm**

**Friday March 14th, 6:45pm**

**Saturday March 15th, 1:45pm**

*Adrift - US, 5 minutes*

*Director - Simon Christen*

San Francisco. The Golden Gate Bridge. Fog.

This is a breath-takingly beautiful piece of cinematography and music as a tribute to the City's most treasured icon.

*The Brunchers - UK, 19 minutes*

*Director - Matt Winn*

A thirty-something couple (Natalie Dormer and Tom Burke) are having trouble getting breakfast. Oh, and finding their identity in the London of NOW!

A wonderfully witty film dealing with identity in and around relationships. Featured a delightful cameo from Rufus Sewell!

*Goldfield - Australia, 15 minutes*

*Director - Alan King*

It's 1853 and Australia has gold fever. Two prospectors have made a strike, and that's where the troubles begin.

A tense film that communicates the stations of greed and the decay of morality in the face of the all-mighty dollar.

*Half-Shaved - Romania, 11 minutes*

*Director - Bogdan Muresanu*

Time heals all wounds, but a chance encounter can rip them open once again. This intense Romanian short explores what happens when a former victim of the Romanian regime finds his former torturer in his barber's chair.

A powerful film that looks at the ideas of what happens when a painful presence lays its throat bare in front of our hands.

*Me + Her - US, 12 minutes*

*Director - Joseph Oxford*

Jack and Jill are cardboard people in a cardboard town. Sadly, Jill dies, and Jack goes on a journey that is thrilling and heart-breaking in equal measure.

Me + Her is a visual feast, and a story that will break your heart, but also make you smile when it all comes to a finish.

*My Father's Truck - Brazil/Vietnam, 15 minutes*

*Director - Mauricio Osaki*

Mai Vy is ten and skips and has skipped school with his truck. Mai Vy is thrown into a world she has never experienced before where morality isn't black or white.

A film that uses the countryside of Vietnam to great cinematic effect, My Father's Truck is a marvelous entry.

*Tryouts - US, 14 minutes*

*Director - Susana Casares*

It's tough out there for teenagers in America today. It's also tough for Muslim girls in American high school, and in this case, for Nayla who wants to be a cheerleader, but the powers that be say that she has to take off her headscarf.

An important story featuring an impressive performance from Kimya Marefat.

## **Cinequest 24's Short Film Programming Team**

**Bill Maxey - Head Shorts Programmer**

**Team**

**Chris Garcia, Jonathan Fong, Norris Pope, Lee Lanier,**

**Lance Lawson**





