



# KLAUS AT GUNPOINT

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February 17 2015



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Chris - Editors - Vanessa

*February 2015*

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This issue is dedicated to three wonderful human beings  
Finn Nørgaard - Danish Filmmaker Murdered at a Free Speech Talk  
Ed Sabol - Founder of NFL Films  
Stewart Stern - Who taught me how to write teen angst



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As always, Cinequest is upon us, and while this has been a year of changes around the Garcia Compound (Vanessa and I got married, we're expecting a kid, I learned a really good fried rice recipe...), things remain the same in many respects.

First, we both helped put together the Cinequest program, along with a half-dozen others. This year was a great bunch, and the issue herein details the best stuff (sans Student Film Festival stuff, which I don't get to see!)

It's been a big year for shootings, sadly. The Charlie Hebdo shootings and the Copenhagen murder of a filmmaker whose work was not widely known in the US, unfairly I might add, at a Free Speech event. It's a shame that speech, even unpopular and potentially damaging speech, has led to so much bloodshed, but alas, it is the world we live in. Filmmakers have been tackling issues of speech and violence for decades, and sadly it doesn't seem like we're any closer



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CHAPTER

# 2015 CINEQUEST SHORTS PROGRAM

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Urnas hendrerit fringilla ut, arcu mauris tempus vitae et, ut nonummy at nascetur felis nunc sem, mauris dictum nec dignissim morbi. Tristique tortor sed dolor, luctus conubia ac risus, fusce placerat ultricies magna.

## SECTION



# PROGRAM 1 - LIFE CONSTANTLY CHANGES US



THIS YEAR, WE HAD A LOT OF INTENSE FILMS. SO MANY, IN FACT, THAT WE CREATED A PROGRAM THAT WE SHORT-HANDED AS “THE INTENSE PROGRAM.” THIS IS WHAT SHOOK OUT OF IT!

### ***aussi loin - France, 14 minutes***

Following a political attack, two idealistic young people must make a choice: to flee or stay in their hideout.

An insanely tense short with incredible acting and a stylish execution from all involved. On the most impressive films of the year!

### ***Camelot - United Kingdom***

We all have expectations, and Claudia has been expecting a Ford Capri from her father. Now, the car's for sale, and not to her. It's a dark comedy set near a London full of strange and fascinating characters, and an awesome story.

Director Robin Mason makes his debut, and co-writes with Jonathan Hatch. The acting is top-notch, and the shooting and editing is stylish and well-timed.

#### Happy Fun Room - USA

The world was nearly fell, but there'll always be children's television. Happy Fun Room is a show that was once hugely popular, but now it's teaching kids about the dangers of the new world they're all trapped in.

Greg Pak, whose feature Robot Stories is one of the best science fiction films ever made, directs Cindy Cheung in an exceptionally strong performance. From the rich world Pak develops, to the impressive characterization of Cheung and her band of kids, Happy Fun Room is one wonderful film.

#### La Princesse de Lamour Damour - France

Story-time. It's infectious. Sometimes, it's so infectious, the teller gets absolutely caught up in the story itself.

This wonderful short features the wonderful Laetitia Andrieu in the lead, and Arnaud Lalanne's direction and shooting really highlights this fine French short.

#### Little Coffins - Canada

With long life, come a constant barrage of memories, many shrouded in the midsts of time. Isaac and Katie share a past, and present, in this wonderful North American premiere.

The marvelous script and exceptional direction of Connor Jessup, and the fine acting of Lauren Piech and Nicholas Campbell, mingle with fine art direction and the excellent cinematography of Stephanie Weber Biron, which gives this remarkable film a powerful impact.

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*Shorts Program 1 shows Wed, Feb 25th at 10pm, Friday Feb 27th at 1:30pm, and Monday, March 2nd at 10:15pm.*

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#### Livsforkortelses Ekspert (Life Ending Specialist) - Canada

When you're a contract killer, sometimes, it's hard to get a little shut eye. So, when a pitman gets some unusual advice, it leads to impressive action.

Starring Danish superstar Ulrich Thomsen (Festen, The World is Not Enough) and shot with all the grit and glamour of a John Woo film, Livsforkorttelses Ekspert is one of the most impressively stylish short films you'll ever find.

#### Newborns - India

The disfigurement of women using acid is one of the greatest crimes committed against women. Newborns looks at women who have suffered this horrible crime, and how they go through life afterwards.

Blending forms in this experimental short, writer-director Megha Ramaswamy has created an incredibly affecting short film.

#### Saerto Ena - USA, 29 minutes

A Georgian woman and a Russian soldier end up fit together. Choices must be made, actions taken, and two people in opposition must come together to survive.

This intense short features Irina Varina and David Toprakashvili giving powerful performances in directors/writer Nikoloz Kevkhashvili's wonderful film.

# 2

## SECTION

# PROGRAM 2 - (DIS) CONNECTED

A PROGRAM THAT LOOKS AT OUR CONNECTIONS, BOTH THIS MADE AND MISSED. I HAD A HAD IN PROGRAMMING FIVE OF THESE FILMS, AND THEY ARE SOME OF THE FILMS THAT MOST EFFECTED ME FROM ALL THOSE I WATCHED IN PROGRAMMING THIS YEAR.

### *Home - China, 20 minutes*

What is the tie between a family and a home? What do we put on our locations, and what do those locations put on us in return? Home examines ten years of changes in a home in modern China.

Told from an unblinking, static shot, this film traipses along the line of verite documentary and familial narrative. The acting's good, the direction strong, and the script is among the best you'll see all year.





***El Don De Los Espejos - Mexico, 10 minutes***

A stubborn fish collector faces his own boundaries in this maritime story, perfect for a family.

This one combines so many different elements into a single impressive and beautiful film. Mara Soler directs this impressive short film based on an incredible script by Pablo Azuela.

***Coney Island Dreams - USA, 24 minutes***

Maggie's has had a run of rum luck. She wants to get out of New York, but the only available path runs through a Mob Boss who wants to collect, and thus Maggie needs to lure him onto an empty street.

This tough film that rolls in shades of noir, features excellent acting from Jessica Park and Alan Tavarez, among others. The direction is gritty and the script nuanced.

***Strange Men - USA, 20 minutes***

Sometimes, things don't go as we have foreseen. Abby's life hasn't worked out. Broke and alone, she decides to return home to her mother, but finds herself followed by a strange man once she gets on the bus home.

An excellent turn by Hannah Mosqueda as Abby highlights this story of what happens when we reach the tipping point.

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*You Can see Shorts Program 2 at the Camera 12 on February 25th and 26th at 7:15pm, and on March 3rd at 4:30pm!*

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***The Baddest Part - USA, 15 minutes***

A couple on a road trip, exploring their relationship, goes through new places - physically, emotionally, and criminally.

A sharp script from director Adam Asimov and lead actor Ellen Wong, along brilliant shooting and performances from Wong and Al Burke that truly make The Baddest Part into a memorable work reminiscent of the films of John Cassavettes and Sophia Coppola.

***Cupcake - Sweden, 14 minutes***

What if your relationship had an expiration date; if you knew exactly when it would all be coming to an end. Lena and Karin have that exact knowledge, and as the time approaches, they must confront the terrible reality of encroaching freedom.

This heart-breaking film tears at the soul, with Jane Magnusson's direction holding our hands and not letting us look away. Livia Millhagen and Mirja Turestedt bring powerful performances to a film that will make you question what it means to be removed from someone's arms in the face of difficult circumstances.

***Barrio Boy - US, 8 minutes***

What if you had to keep your desires hidden in order to maintain your position in the neighborhood? A latino barber in Brooklyn, hides his homosexuality even while working on the hair of the new hotness.

Told largely through brutally-honest voice-over, with exquisitely-sharp cinematography from Garrett Shannon, and with a brilliant script from director Dennis Shinnars, and acting that so honest and powerful that it moves the entire way through.



SECTION

## PROGRAM 3 - LESSONS LEARNED



YOUNG LIVES MATTER, AND SOMETIMES THEY ARE VERY DIFFICULT. THE BIGGEST PROBLEMS ARE OFTEN CONFRONTED IN THOSE YEARS IN WHICH WE ARE NOT YET READY TO FACE THOSE SORTS OF PROBLEMS. THIS PROGRAM ABOUT CHILDREN ARE A SERIES OF STORIES THAT ARE NOT MEANT FOR CHILDREN.

### ***Bernard The Great (Bernard le Grand) - Canada, 9 minutes***

Bernard's parents are indifferent. The fact that he doesn't want to grow up to be them has put him in an anti-growing suit of his own design. Now, it's his tenth birthday, and he is NOT having it!

This wonderful short is strange and smart and more than a little hilarious. A smart script and stylish look prepares an amazing platter to serve Elliot Miville-Deschesnes' brilliant performance on!

**Cold Snap - New Zealand, 11 minutes**

A young boy catches possums in the cold of New Zealand's winter. Then a new neighbor moves in, the two connect, leading to new discoveries.

There are few shorts that pack as much punch as Cold Snap. The exceptional direction of Leo Woodhead, the nuanced acting of Loren Taylor and Matthew Dowman, and the shocking script all make this one of the most powerful films of the year.

**Dead Hearts - Canada, 17 minutes**

A young boy knows that he's going to grow up to be a mortician. While whiling away the days waiting for his turn with the dead, he meets a wonderful young girl who happens to be a Blind Kung-Fu Master. The two fall in love, and not even the cold of the grave can keep them apart!

Probably the most adorably adorable short in history. Using intelligent voice-over, a super-sweet script, and incredible direction by Stephen W. Martin all add up to a wonderful viewing experience.

**Itsy-Bitsy Spiders - USA, 12 minutes**

Edwin draws spiders. That's his thing. His mother doesn't think it's a good obsession, but there are reasons behind everything. Writer-director Bertrand Pare gives us an wonderful short with short performances and a dark theme.

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*You can see Shorts Program 3 on Friday, Feb 27th, at 9:45pm,  
on Sunday, March 1st at 11:45am, and Tuesday, March 3rd at  
1:45pm!*

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**My Light in Darkness - Norway, 14 minutes**

There are worlds that do not often collide. In 1800s Norway, it was unlikely that a young black hobo would come across one another, never mind striking up a friendship completely without words.

This is a beautiful and contemplative short, with incredible cinematography and acting that relies on honest reaction and humanity.

**Navidad - Mexico, 17 minutes**

It's a beautiful, warm, summery weekend and the family is all together. It must be Christmas.

This short is incredibly shot, and a powerful document to the difficulties many families are put through, and how dealing with semi-requisite delusions can weigh everything down.

**Piss & Vinegar - Belgium, 6 minutes**

It's never easy to break in a new stepdad, and Julie is doing her best.

This dark comedy features the wonderful Zoe Graves as Julie, a precocious (and some might say Draconian...) little girl. Her performance is pitch-perfect, and Tatyana Beloy's direction and script are both top-notch.

**Slap - United Kingdom, 25 minutes**

Connor is a boxer. Lola is his girlfriend. Connor has a secret.

A story that could easily have been played for camp or shock value, Slap is a short that probes questions of identity, and the imprecise nature of it. Fine acting is enabled by a wonderful script from director Nick Rowland and Islay Bell-Webb, Slap is a wonderful journey we take with the talent.



## SECTION

# PROGRAM 4 - ANIMATED WORLDS



AS AN ACADEMY-QUALIFYING FILM FESTIVAL, CONQUEST GETS AN INCREDIBLE SET OF ANIMATED FILMS SUBMITTED. THIS YEAR'S BUNCH WAS AMAZING, AND WE HAD TO LET SEVERAL INCREDIBLE SHORTS GO BECAUSE THERE JUST WASN'T SPACE. THAT ALONE IS ENOUGH TO MAKE THIS PROGRAM FEEL LIKE SOMETHING SPECIAL, BUT THERE IS SO MUCH MORE TO IT. THE FILMS INCLUDE AN OSCAR NOMINEE, SEVERAL COUNTRIES, AND A FEW THAT ARE CERTAIN TO BE ABSOLUTE CROWD PLEASERS.

### ***Bear Story - Chile, 10 minutes***

Told through the eyes of a lonely bear who has lost so much, *Bear Story* is a beautiful portrait of what it takes to keep on keepin' on.

Combining elements of fantasy, steampunk, and good ol' fashioned animal fun, director Gabriel Osorio Vargas' masterpiece is a show within a show, and as emotionally powerful as any film you'll ever see.

### ***Behind my Behind - USA, 4 minutes***

*A working stiff gets his dream on. Release from his work-a-day world presents our hero with a view of something so much better.*

*Combining beautiful music with impressive, multi-layered animation, Conquest favorite David Chai presents us with a memorable view of a marvelous world.*

### ***Chiaroscuro - Brazil, 8 minutes***

An abstract world is the setting for a chase between two strange entities.

The imagery of Chiaroscuro is so vivid and impressive that it makes the story that much more impressive. Daniel Drummond's film is a powerful reminder that the basic stories can still move us.

### ***Crow - United Kingdom, 5 minutes***

Legendary poet Ted Hughes reads his masterpiece: CROW - a re-telling of Genesis.

Imagery, music, and the sublime poetry of Hughes are perfectly blended by Yoav Segal to deliver a short animated film that is so beautiful!

### ***The Dam Keeper - USA, 18 minutes***

A pig is the butt of many jokes. The taunting hurts him no end, but he has a duty: keep the dangerous clouds away from the town using his windmill dam. When a new classmate comes and changes everything, our pig makes a choice.

Blending digital painting and hand-drawn animation, The Oscar-nominated animated short says much about the human condition through the actions of animals.

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*“Animated Worlds plays at on Thu February 26th at 10pm, Thu March 5th at 7:15pm, and Fri March 6th at 1:30pm”*

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### ***Deadly - Ireland, 9 minutes***

Boney has a job that makes it hard to make friends, When he comes across an old woman at the nursing home he frequents, his 'life' is forever changed.

Featuring the voice of Brenda Fricker, Deadly is a beautiful tale of the difficulties of making friends when you're set on a particular path, and how rewarding even temporary joy can be for two lonely people.

### ***Dinner for Few - Greece, 10 minutes***

The world runs along well-worn tracks. Humanity feeds those who are already full first, then the rest must survive off the scraps. This is a story inspired by the economic collapse in southern Europe.

A lovely short that tells a powerful story, the work of the team led by Nassos Vakalis is lovely.

### ***Footprints - USA, 4 minutes***

A gullible man goes on a quest to find a mysterious destructive monster, ultimately arriving at a surprising revelation.

Directed by Surrealist Animation legend Bill Plimpton, Footprints is another brilliant short from the Oscar winner!

### ***German Shepard - Sweden, 10 minutes***

Documentary is not a form that you'd expect animation to explore, but here we find an animated story of a Jewish man who confronts his mother's hatred of Germans in reaction to her experiencing the Holocaust.

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*There  
are no  
worlds  
as real  
as the  
ones we  
create*

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Nils Bergendal takes the words of his subject and animated them with impressive amounts of impressionistic power.

***Heavenly Peace - USA, 6 Minutes***

Breaking' up is hard to do. Staying' broken up can be even more difficult, especially when it's the holidays and a cherub is working' over-time on your behalf.

This adorable story of a one-time couple separated, but far from over one another, is sure to be a crowd pleaser! The wonderful script and classic animation by Andreas Wessel-Therhorn makes this an unbelievably feel-good picture!

***Jinx Jenkins, Lucky Lou - USA, 4 minutes***

Jinx is cursed. Like "Chicago Cubs in October"-level cursed. Lucky is just that. The two of them are thrown together and immediately end up on an action-packed thrill ride of a romance.

One of the most adorably sweet short films ever made (and incredibly like Vanessa and my relationship!), the character design, the action, the music, and especially the heart, of Jinx Jenkins, Lucky Lou will make this one stand out!

***The Last Resort - United Kingdom, 8 minutes***

Little kids can be dead difficult. Two teenaged sisters have to deal with a four year old while maintaining the hotel their parents own.

With an animation style that is instantly recognizable, The Last Resort is beautiful and a hilarious piece of work!

***Luna & Lars - USA, 8 minutes***

Luna and Lars are puppets, bound together in an old attack play theatre. One night, they come across two a new piece of music, and a mirror. The combination puts their eternity in peril!

A remarkably beautiful animation from Anna Zlokovic, this lovely stop-motion animation told without words is well-played that you'll never want it to stop!

***Nine - Thailand, 9 minutes***

Sometimes, following your bliss can lead you into dangerous situations. Grey Cat is terrified of losing his ninth life, and thus, makes a faustian deal which may cost him everything.

Beautiful character design, and fluid and exciting action packed storytelling makes Nine a memorable short!

***Teeth - Hungary/United Kingdom, 6 minutes***

Some people focus on one thing their entire life. The guy has chosen teeth.

Surrealistic, powerful, and dark, Teeth is one of those films that makes you think, as well as squirm in your seat!



## SECTION

# PROGRAM 5 - MINDBENDERS



EVERY YEAR, WE TRY TO PUT TOGETHER A SERIES OF SHORTS THAT TRULY MESSES WITH EVERYONE'S HEAD. SOME YEARS, THAT'S MEANT TWIST ENDINGS AND STRANGE SUBJECT MATTER. OTHER YEARS, IT'S FILMS SO DARK THEY'RE DARQUE! OTHER YEARS, IT'S JUST A BUNCH OF MOVIES THAT MAKE YOU QUESTION WHAT THE FUCK JUST HAPPENED. THIS YEAR, WE STRUCK A BALANCE WITH A SET OF FILMS THAT ARE BOTH STRANGE AND WONDERFUL.

### ***Burnt Grass - Canada, 11 minutes***

What if you could duplicate your most beloved? A strange anomaly in Jack and Sally's backyard makes that possible. Jack begins a process of experimentation with the different Sallys, and the Sallys themselves form something else.

A strange take on the tradition love triangle, the themes writer/director Ray Wong works within are both odd and chilling.

### ***Danny and the Wild Bunch - USA, 5 minutes***

Sometimes, it's hard to tell is the author is in control of their characters, or if the characters are in command of their authors. Other times, it's 100% certain that the author has lost all control.

This wonderful short examines fantastical world, while also exploring what the roles played by creators and the created. The combination of effects, animation, and live action make Robert Rugan's film that much more memorable.

***The Detectives of Noir Town - Australia, 7 minutes***

It's a dark night in the city, and there's murder afoot. Also, puppets.

This strange short about a world where puppets roam the streets as detective is equal parts Greg the Bunny and Dead Men Don't Wear Plaid. It's the kind of film you can suck on for a day!

***Ecdysis - United Kingdom / Greece, 18 minutes***

A stressed man's car breaks down and he's forced to take his briefcase for a walk. At a bus stop, he meets a beautiful young woman named dog. Things get weird, especially when he gets a not normal phone call.

Director Faidra Tsolina works with Nikolai Hamels' brilliantly strange script in the smartest way possible. The acting, and especially JP Garcia's disquieting camera work, all add up to a strange short that just feels like you've entered a Camus story.

***In Extremis - United Kingdom, 14 minutes***

Museums are strange places, especially after dark. A nightwatchman is hired to look after a specific set of artifacts in the basement one evening, and things get weird.

In Extremis has far more in common with Saw than A Night at the Museum, and is a dark joy to behold!

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*Mindbenders plays at the Camera 12 on Monday March 2nd at 2:30pm, Tuesday March 3rd at 9:30, and Friday March 6th at 11:59pm (OK, let's just call it Midnight..)*

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***Love at Last Sight - USA, 18 minutes***

Gather 'round and hear the story of Sully: an upperclass Frenchman living in Manhattan who also happens to be a serial rapist. He discovers Stephanie, a bartender who is far smarter than his usual prey. She invites him over to see her pet fish, for some reason...

Quite possibly the most disturbing film in the festival this year, Love at Last Sight plays like American Psycho without the baggage of believing in the social contract. At times darkly lyrical, even hilarious, this is a film that makes use of every lure in director Oscar Hernandez-Topete's tackle box

***Solo Finale - Germany, 8 minutes***

Sometimes, something as simple as a bird flying into a window can change your world. In Solo Finale, it kind of brings it all crashing down around down unexacting performers.

One of the most visually stunning short films in years, Solo Finale takes imagery ranging from sterile modern home style to an abandoned opera house and blends it together with an impressively musical surreality.

***Turn of the Screw - United Kingdom, 5 minutes***

Your average office drone sits at a desk and deals with the world. Our hero is not your average office drone...

Director/Writer Chris Bogle's short is wordless, but it says more about the importance of the little things that bother us than any TED Talk.

***Wien for Life - Belgium, 24 minutes***

Pierre and Ginger have a few problems, but Ginger's predictive abilities due to his injured neck leads to even more. A winning lottery ticket, and a desire to head out to Surabaya lead them down a twisted path.

A brilliantly strange script highlights this wonderful film!



# 6

## SECTION

# PROGRAM 6 - DOCUMENTATION



I'M A HUGE SUPPORTER OF SHORT-FORM DOCUMENTARY. OVER THE YEARS, I'VE SEEN SO MANY INNOVATIVE DOCS CLOCKING IN AT LESS THAN 30 MINUTES. WHEN THERE WAS THE MOVEMENT TO COMBINE THE DOCUMENTARY OSCARS FOR FEATURE AND SHORT INTO ONE CATEGORY, I WAS DEAD-SET AGAINST IT!

THIS YEAR WE SAW SOME AMAZING SHORTS. I'M HAPPY TO SAY THAT I PROGRAMMED MORE THAN HALF OF THEM FROM MY VIEWING, AND IT KINDA SHOWS IN THE SUBJECT MATTER!

### ***Beyond Recognition - USA, 27 minutes***

The Ohlone people lived in the area that is now occupied by San Francisco, the Silicon Valley, and some of the most valued real estate in the country. Plowed beneath parking lots and malls are the remains of Ohlone culture, and now some incredible people are fighting to save what little is left.

With top-notch production, excellent interviews, and a topic that takes on the Bay Area's seemingly ruthless drive for new development, Michelle Grace Steinberg's thought-provoking documentary does a lot of heavy-lifting.

**Elgin Park - USA, 10 minutes**

The city of Elgin Park is just like any other all-American, 1950s city, with the exception of being 1/24th scale.

This wonderful short about the work of the amazing Michael Paul Smith, is a story of an incredible human and his miniature reality.

**Looking at the Stars - USA, 30 minutes**

In Brazil, there is the only ballet academy for the blind. Teaching young blind children how to dance is a driving passion, and it's not always easy.

Inspiring and beautiful, Looking at the Stars is one of those documentaries that makes you feel good, and leaves deep thoughts where it has passed.

**Luchadora - USA, 12 minutes**

There are about 200 wrestlers working for La Empresa (Mexico's largest wrestling federation CMLL), and only 18 of those wrestlers are woman. Luna Magica is one of them, and her fights are both in the ring and in the world.

In the tradition of incredible wrestling documentaries like Beyond the Mat and Wrestling With Shadows, River Finlay brings Luna Magica and her struggles to life in a vivid documentary form.

**Rare Tea Cellar - USA 7 minutes**

There is nothing like a good cuppa. This documentary looks at the role of tea, and one of the rare Rare Tea sellers, known as the Rare Tea Cellar.

What could have been nothing more than a simple promotional video turned out to be an informative and fascinating short doc!

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*“Docunation will screen at the Camera 12 on Friday, February 27th at 4:30pm, on Monday, March 2nd at 5:15pm, and Saturday, March 7th at 6:30pm”*

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**Seven Ways from Sunday - USA, 8 minutes**

Stuffed animals. 'buff said.

There is so much to see in Seven ways to Sunday is an incredibly effective piece of filmmaking that bridges experimental filmmaking and traditional documentary form. Conquest favorite Robert Sickels presents an incredibly engaging film that gives us so much more than you might consider possible.

**Sugar Coated - USA, 11 minutes**

Lolita fashion has a hold on a community in Los Angeles. This is their story.

The Lolita movement is naturally photogenic, but director Chris Parson elevates this wonderful doc to new heights, incorporating his subjects stories beyond their clothes into his illustration of this subculture.



## SECTION

# PROGRAM 7 - SOMETHING FUNNY



EVERY YEAR, CINEQUEST'S COMEDY PROGRAM DRAWS BIG CROWDS, AND THIS YEAR, WE'VE GOT A GREAT SET OF FILMS FEATURING SO MANY DIFFERENT KINDS OF FUNNY, AND ALSO SOME BIG NAMES APPEARING, MOST NOTABLY LARRY MILLER, BRIAN !

### ***Grand Zero - USA, 15 minutes***

The passing of your parents is really hard. It's only harder when they happen to be the world's greatest multi-level marketers.

This hilarious short from writer-director Kevin Oeser, features an amazing cast (including Brian Huskey of Children's Hospital, and Thomas Lennon of The State) and a smart script that asks the ultimate question: even if you do look a gift horse in the mouth, what'll you do if it tries to make you?

### ***De Smet - Belgium, 15 minutes***

The brother "De Smet" life identical lives in three identical houses. One nonidentical woman moves into the neighborhood, and everything is thrown into chaos!

This stylish comedy is so very very Belgian!

### ***Donation - USA, 5 minutes***

A woman falls for her phlebotomist... perhaps literally.

Dark comedy, with an excellent set of comedic performances and a punch line that you just won't believe. Donations plays well on several levels!

**firstworldproblems - USA, 2 minutes**

A mom on her cell phone driving back home is greeted by an unusual sight...

This drive-by comedy is dark, and hilarious. Marielle Woods' direction is sly, and the audacity of it all really makes this one to look at unblinkingly!

**THE FLY - United Kingdom, 6 minutes**

Getaway drivers have to deal with the stupidest things!

This comedy from Olly Williams shows what happens when minor inconveniences start to pile up while there's important business at hand! Jack Doolan gives an awesome performance as our driver.

**How Guys Thoughts Ruin Perfect Relationships - USA, 2 minutes**

Guys think things. Often, they are stupid things...

A short that examines the realities of relationships, while still managing to not be cloying. Also, that guy should TOTALLY be watching Nashville...

**Late Shifters - USA, 15 minutes**

Working at a convenience store is only more difficult when you spend the evening listening to strange radio announcing the arrival of extra-dimensional beings... who may well be showing up to buy stuff.

A brilliant piece of comedy in the mode of Clerks, well-written and smartly acted, focusing on well-crafted dialogue.

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*“Something Funny plays at the Camera 12 on Wed. March 4th at 4:45pm, on Friday March 6th at 6:30pm, and Sat. March 7th at 1:15pm!”*

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**Leonard in Slow Motion - Canada, 9 minutes**

Leonard lives in slow-motion. The rest of the world moves like, well, the rest of the world. When the girl of his dream is about to get transferred, Leonard starts looking for the fast-forward button.

Featuring the exceptional Martin Starr (Adventureland), Leonard in Slow Motion is adorable, smart, and just a bit feisty!

**The Lord of Catan - USA 14 minutes**

A couple is settling down and end up joining together a game of Settlers of Catan. This may have been a bad idea.

A great two person cast (including Amy Acker of Angel fame) and a smart script that takes every minor fight every couple has had when trying to learn something new to share and turns them into comedy gold!

**New Soul - USA 9 minutes**

It's time to get born, and you've got a chance to choose what path you take. What do you do?

Larry Miller is one of the finest comedic talents you'll ever find, and here he's at his best, with a super script and great direction allowing him to shine like it's the first time.

**Oscar Desafinado - Spain, 20 minutes**

As happens with all couples, Oscar's girlfriend Violeta dies after making him pledge to date no one for two years after her death. If he breaks the pledge, she'll be back! Now, with 43 minutes to go, Oscar is forced with a tough choice.

Funny and kinda flashy, it's a movie full of great performances, and a delightfully off-beat script!