

# ANN ARBOR FILM FESTIVAL

MARCH 25-30 2014 29

Michigan Theater & other locations

AAFILMFEST.ORG

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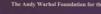




















ANN ARBOR FILM FESTIVAL

MARCH 25-30 2014

The Ann Arbor Film Festival is the longest running independent and experimental film festival in North Americas Founded in 1963, the ARF started as a critical, alternative venue for filmmakers and artists to publicly share their work. Today the festival continues its focus on the art of film, serving as one of the country's premier forums for bold, visionary, experimental and independent filmmakers.

AAFILMFEST.ORG



STEVE ANKER: BIG AS LIFE, 8MM EXPERIMENTAL FILM IN THE U.S.: THE BOSTON UNDERGROUND, 1976–1992

THE BOSTON UNDERGROUND, 1976—1992 Juror Presentable 12:30pm I Michigan Theater Screening Room I FREE As selection of films from Big As Life, a series of 76 programs of artists' 8mm and Super 8mm films held at MoMA from 1998-2000, curated by Jurte Jensen and Steve Anker. This program, curated and presented by Anker, will be feature five Super 8mm films by Sau Levine, Pelle Lowe, Peter Herwitz, Luther Price and a very rare screening of Apologies (1990) by the late diarist filmmaker Anne Charlotte Robinson (1949-2012).

SCREENING WI MITTER AST

Films in Competition
4:30pm 1 Michigan Theater Screening Room
Gradual Speed, the latest 16mm film from Brussels-based
arrist Els Van Riel, is an austere meditation on movement,
matter, light and perception. Screening with White Ash, the
most recent digital work by Leighton Pierce, described as
an inexorable dive into edges of consciousness." Els Van Riel
will be in attendance.

JOSEPH BERNARD: SUPER 8 FILMS

Joseph Bernard, a Detroit-based arrist schooled in painting worked exclusively with small formst (5-8 & 16mm) silent films for ten years beginning in the late 1970s. He made over 100 Super 8 films during this period before returning to collage painting. This program features a selection from this extensive body of film work, "film-as-film abstractions, non-narrative efforts more closely akin to absolute music."

2.13pm 1 Michigan Theater Main Auditorium
A program of experimential and documentary films
A program of experimential and documentary films
including Akram Zastari's film essay Letter to a Refusing
Pflor, the World Premiere of Burn Out the Duy by Sasha
Waters Freyer and the North American premiere of Sun
Song by Jod Water

THOM ANDERSEN: FILMS 1965-2014

Filmmake in Attendance
9.15pm 1 Michigan Theater Screening Room
1.5pm 1 Michigan Theater Screening Room
1.5pm 1 Michigan Theorem 1.5pm 1.5

**OUT NIGHT: FILMS IN COMPETITION** 

9:30pm | Michigan Theater Main Auditorium Our 13th annual program of LGBTQ films featuring recent documentary, experimental, and narrative works.

SHaurt & \aut\BAR | 11pm-2am | FREE
Out Night continues at SH\aut\ & \aut\BAR with
complimentary appetizers and fire pits in the courtyard!

MUSIC VIDEOS IN COMPETITION 3pm | Michigan Theater Main Auditorium | \$5 TICKETS New music videos by Lori Felker, Ben Russell, Sabrina Ratté, Emily Pelstring, Melika Bass, lan Cheng and other featuring the music of Implodes, Bonnie "Prince" Billy, Tim Hecker, Julia Holter, Sigur Rós, Liars, and more.

GRADUAL SPEED SCREENING W/ WHITE ASH

WEDNESDAY

MARCH 26

ANN ARBOR FILM FESTIVAL MARCH 25-30

# **TUESDAY**

MARCH 25

## **OPENING** NIGHT

FUNDRAISER DINNER | 5:30-7:30PM

Sava's
Enjoy a strolling dinner with open har while supportin
Enjoy a strolling dinner with open har while supportin
the future of the AAFF. A red carpet will lead guests
from the restaurant to the main event at the Michigan
Theater. Tickets include reserved seating for Opening
Night Screening.

### RECEPTION | 6-8PM

Michigan Theater Grand Foyer
The S2nd Pestival opens with a reception featuring open
bar with Terra Blanca wine, signature Sazerac cocktails
mixed by Ravens Club and Arbor Brewing Company
beer, appetizers from local favorites Ravens Club, Sava's
Jerusalem Garden, Café Zola and more. Music by local Dj
Jernay Wheeler.

### SCREENING | 8:15PM

Michigan Theater Main Auditorium Short films in competition, featuring animation, Short films in competition, featuring animation, documentary, narrative and experimental new works, including the North American premiere of A warded Miller Amy by Jenniffer Rederf cawarded Best Minar AMER AMER CLUB Washington State State State State State Girardet; and The Dark, Krysfel by Mitchael Robinstoph

AFTERPARTY
Sava's | 10pm-2am | FREE
Continue the Opening Night celebration with drink specials and music at Sava's!

#### TICKETS & PASSES

## SCREENINGS

unless otherwise noted

\$9 General Admission

\$7 Students / Seniors / AAFF Members

\$7 Midnight Movies

# OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION & SCREENING

\$35 General Admission \$25 Students / Seniors / AAFF Members Michigan Theater Members

Michigan Theater Members \$9 Screening Only \$100 Fundraiser Dinner & Screening

FESTIVAL PASSES

includes opening night and all events
\$95 General Admission
\$80 Students / Seniors / AAFF Members

#### WEEKEND PASSES

\$55 General Admission \$45 Students / Seniors / AAFF Members

## EACH PROGRAM IS DIFFERENT.

Films are not rated. All programs are intended for mature audiences, unless otherwise noted. Some films have imagery of a stroboscopic nature. Some of the competition programs will include historic and archival films, outside of awards consideration.

Poster Image Arthur Siegel, 1942. "Hanna furnaces of the Great Lakes Steel Corporation, Detroit, Mich." Courtesy of the Library of Congress Prints and Photogr Division, Farm Security Administration - Office of War Information Collection.

#### GALLERY EXHIBITION

PHILL NIBLOCK: THE MOVEMENT
OF PEOPLE WORKING
March 19-April 5 I Work Galley 1 306 5. State St.
An immersive installation featuring multiple projectio
of Niblock's 1 form thins of manual laborers with his
commentary at Dentri will black a live conner'
performance with Niblock on Thursday, March 20th,
Opening Reception from 6-8pm, Wednesday, March 1
with Phill Niblock in attendance.

## WORKSHOPS & **PRESENTATIONS**

EXPANDING FRAMES

John-12pm 1 Bono 2435 North Quad, State St. | FREE

Expanding Frames is a series of daily presentations and
workshops aiming to foster a deeper understanding of the
work being exhibited at the Pestival and to open a space
for dialogue that nutrures both community and critical
thinking. Free and open to the public, with sessions each
morning, Wednesday through Sunday, and an orientation
session 2-4 pm Tuesday (see adiffinest.org for schedule).

## **THURSDAY**

MARCH 27

## HOPE TUCKER: THE OBITUARY PROJECT

Juro Presentation
12:30 m 1 Michigan Theater Screening Room 1 FREE
Hope Tucker, originally from Memphis, TN, is an artist
working primarily in film and video. Since 2000, Tucker's
work has been exhibited internationally at museums,
galleries and festivals, including four editions of the AAFF.
Tucker will present work from the rogging series Frucker will present work from the rogging series from the Olitical Project, "a compendium of contemporary
salvage ethnography that documents the passing of
cultural markers and ways of beting."

THOM ANDERSEN: EADWEARD MUYBRIDGE, ZOOPRAYOGRAPHER Fillmands in Bittendance
3pm 1. Michigan Theater Screening Boom
A 58mm print, newly rescored by the UCLA Film & Television Archive; "Thom Andersen's first feature announced the arrival of one of America's most significant documentary auterus. Eadweard Maybridge, 2009 announced have a time to a time a bit of the office of the arrival of the arrival of the office of the arrival of the arrival

## PENELOPE SPHEERIS

PENELOPE SPHEERIS
Spm 1 Michigan Theater Main Auditorium 1 FREE
Often referred to as a "Nock" it Roll anthropologist",
Penelops Spheeris is an American director, producer and
screenwiter. Here groundbreasling exploration of the
seminal Los Angeles punk scene. The Decline of Western
Orthitation (1934) is cereming Pridady, is still the crucial
reference point for the history and culture of that era. She
will be joined in conversation with Mark Toscano, film
preservationist for the Academy of Motion Picture Arts
and Sciences Film Archive, for a discussion that will cover
Spheeris' vital independent filmmaking career, including
her early radical shorts and pioneering music films, as well
as her documentary and narrative features.

MANAKAMANA
Filimaker in Attendance
6-45pm. I Michigan Theater Screening Room
The newest work from Harvard's Sensory Ethnography
Lab-which previously produced Sweetgrass, Leviathan
(S1st ARF) and People's Park (S1st AAFF). Manakaman
is composed of 11 shots from the inside of a cable car as it
transports pligims making an ancient journey to a Aspell mountaintop. The shots unfold in real-time, corresponding to the duration of a roll of 16 min Min. Sephanic Spray and
Pacho Velez (with sound by Ernst Kareb) have created a film
'thillight' mysterious in its effects: a staged documentary, a
cross between science fiction and ethnography, an airborne
version of an Andy Warbol screen test. As with the richest
structural films, Manakaman is a kind of head movie that
wevers are invited to complete as they watch, an endlessly
wevers are invited to complete as they watch, an endlessly

#### **FILMS IN COMPETITION 2**

7.15pm I Michigan Teater Main Auditrium
Experimental and documentary films including the world
premiere of A Return to The Return to Reason by Sabine
Gruflast screens with Simon Starling's Black Proy, a newly
restored print of Chicago Loop (1976) by James Benning,
and Dos Matrix, a work for two 16mm projectors by
Richard Tuohy.

## PENELOPE SPHEERIS: FILMS 1965-1998

PENELUPE SPHEERIS: FILMS 1965–1998 Filmmaker in Attendance 9:30pm 1 Michigan Theater Screening Room. A program of short films by independent films by Penelope Spheeris, who will be in attendance. The program includes her early films I Dort Know and Hats Off to Hollywood which screened at the AAFF in the early 1970s. Spheeris' early work was ahead of its time in playing with the boundaries of fiction and documentary as well as depicting an emerging queer culture of the 1970s.

## FILMS IN COMPETITION 3

P330pm 1 Michigan Theater Main Auditorium
Experimental, documentary and animated films including
new works by Helena Wittmann, Esther Ulrus, and Joshua
Gen Solondz (awarded Best Animation at 51st AAFF).

# AFTERPARTY The Ravens Club | 11pm-2am | FREE Enjoy independent and experimental mixology in a 1920s speakeasy setting, with live video and DJs.

## **FRIDAY**

MARCH 28

# JEREMY RIGSBY: ARCHAIC BEASTS, GOD'S ASSHOLE AND OTHER IDEAS OF THE PREVIOUS CENTURY

2014

OF THE PREVIOUS CENTURY
Juvor Presentalies
12:30 pm. 1 Michigan Theater Screening Room 1 FREE
Jeremy Bigsby is the Program Director of the Media City
Film Festival (Windsor, Canada). Media City will have its
twentieth edition in July 2014. Jeremy, along with fellow
Media City Program Director Oona Mosna, will present
nine films by artists whose work has been featured in
retrospectives presented during the first two decades of
Media City including films by Peter Tscherkassky, Peter
Hutton, Karl Kek, Gerard Holthuis, Sergel Lounitza, Guy
Sherwin, Friedl vom Gröller, and Kurt Kren.

FROM GULF TO GULF

30m I UMMA Helmed Stein Auditorium I FREE
Comprising over four years of footage, Prom Gulf to Gulf
Coulf is the result of a collaboration between the Indian
art collective CAMP and a group of sailors from the Kutch
district in western India. A modern adventure on the high
seas, the film captures workaday life and lazy hours as the
sailors ferry everything from electronics to livestock from
the Persian Gulf to the Gulf of Aden to the Somali Coast and
back again. —Nelle Killian Artists Shaina Anand and Ashok
Sukumaran in attendance.

## THOM ANDERSEN: RED HOLLYWOOD

THOM ANDERSEN: RED HOLLYWOOD
Filmmaker in Altendance

4pm 1 Michigan Theater Main Auditorium
Remastered and re-edited, Thom Andersen and Noël
Burch's revelatory 1995 documentary about films made
by "Red" Hollywood-screenwriters and directors who
were communists, ex-communists, or sympathizers name
by the House Un-American Activities Committee-offers a
radically different perspective on a key period of America
film history. An elaboration of Andersen's 1985 essay
of the same name, the film draws on extensive research
by the filmmakers, as well as interviews with some of
the blacklisted artists and clips from 53 films spanning
numerous genres, bringing to light a mostly frograte
cannot of works that raised challenging questions about
awa, race relations, class solidarity, women's habor, and

# PENELOPE SPHEERIS: THE DECLINE OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION I

OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION I
Filmmake in Attendance
5pm J Michigan Theater Main Auditorium
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5pm J Michigan Theater Main Auditorium
6pm J Michigan Theater Main Auditorium
6pm J Michigan Michigan Michigan
6pm J Michigan Michigan
6pm J Michigan

## A SPELL TO WARD OFF THE DARKNESS

Feature in Competition
7pm 1 Michigan Theater Screening Room
Ben Rivers and Ben Russell's collaborative film A Spell
follows an unnamed character (musician Robert Alid
follows an unnamed character (musician Robert Alid
Aubrey Lowe) through three seemingly disparate moments
in his life. With little explanation, we join him in the midst
of a 15-person collective on a small Estonian island; in
isolation in the majestic wilderness of Northern Finland;
and during a concert as the singer and guitarist of a black
metal band in Norway.

## **FILMS IN COMPETITION 4**

7:15pm | Michigan Theater Main Auditorium

New narrative, documentary and experimental films including The Blazing World by Jessica Bardsley.

# PENELOPE SPHEERIS: THE DECLINE OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION III

# Filmmaker in Attendance 9:15pm | Michigan Theater Screening Room A very rare screening of the third film in Spheeris' Decline trilogy. This 1998 documentary focuses on the "gutterpunk" lifestyle of homeless teenagers in Los Angeles.

ANIMATED FILMS IN COMPETITION

#### MIDNIGHT MOVIE: SUBURBIA

12am | State Theatre | \$7 TICKETS Penelope Spheeris' 1984 cult film, produced by Roger Corman, features street kids and punk musicians (Flea from the Red Hot Chill Peppers among others) performing as suburban punks squatting in an abandoned house.

#### SATURDAY

MARCH 29

#### FILMS IN COMPETITION 5 (AGES 6+)

Tam | Michigan Theater Main Auditorium | 55 TICKETS

Documentary, animated and short narrative films for bright and curious people (ages 6+).

#### **FILMS IN COMPETITION 6**

# THOM ANDERSEN: LOS ANGELES PLAYS ITSELF

LUS ANGELES PLAYS ITSELF
Filmnaker in Attendance
12:30pm 1 Michigan Theater Main Auditorium
12:30pm 1 Michigan Theater Main Auditorium
Newly remastered and reedited, Thom Andersen's 2003
onys. Los Angeles Plays Burgi Traces the development
and evolution of Los Angeles, "the most photographed
city in the world," Composed of hundreds of film clips
drawn from a century of cinema with a voiceover that
is both lucid and humorous, the film gamered broad
critical acclaim and is considered one of the essential
documentaries of the 2000s.

#### **FILMS IN COMPETITION 7**

# **FILMS IN COMPETITION 8**

FROM DEEP Feature in Competition

Spm | Michigan Theater Main Auditorium

Brett Käshmere's Genture essay is about the game of basketball and its shifting place within 20th century American history and culture, focusing on the evolution from its indoor New Ringland roots to outdoor city game, with a particular emphasis on its merger with hip hop in the mid-1980s and the rise of the "Dunkadelic Era."

Brett Kashmere in attendance.

# THE ABSENT STONE (LA PIEDRA AUSENTE)

Feature in Competition

5mm | Michigan Thaeter Screening Room
In 1964, through an impressive feat of engineering, the
largest carved stone in the Americas was moved from sa
Miguel, Coadlinchan to the National Anthropology Musse
in Mexico City. The locals insist its absence has brought
misfortume in the form of droughts. In sardly inventive
animations, copious archival materials, and illuminating
encounters with both stone movers and townspeople,
fillmankers Sandra Rozental and Jesse Lerner explore
accient roiss affect on the respectant of the control of t

#### TOUCH

Fourter in Competition

Tpm 1 Michigan Theater Screening Room
In shelly Silver's most recent film, a man returns after fifty years to Chinatown in order to care for his dying mother.

He is all brarain, a gay man, something of a watcher, and impersonator, the passes the time collecting images which he places before us, his audience, witnesses and collaborators. Sitting in the dark, we share his cloak of invisibility, which seems both a benefit and a curse.

#### FILMS IN COMPETITION 9

#### COSTA DA MORTE

Feature in Competition
9:15pm | Michigan Theater Screening Room
The 'Coast of Death', a region in Galicia, Spain, was
considered the end of the world during the Roman peri
Lois Fatino's documentary patiently observes the peopl
who inhabit it: the fishermen, loggers, and arrissns who
maintain both an intimate relationship and an antagonic
battle with this beautiful and vast landscape.

9:30pm | Michigan Theater Main Auditorium New experimental, documentary, narrative and animated films.

#### MIDNIGHT MOVIE: SUBURBIA

LIVE Nightclub

11pm-2am | FREE WITH AN AAFF PASS/TICKET

Come see a DJ/VJ set featuring an evolution of musical genres!

## MARCH 30

SUNDAY

# IT FOR OTHERS SCREENING W/ STATUES ALSO DIE

SCREENING W. STATUES ALSO DIE
Film in Competition

Jiam I. Michigan Theater Main Auditorium
Artist and filmanker Duncan Campbell has taken Chris
Marker and Alain Resnais' 1953 film Les Statues meurent
ausst (Statues abs Die as both source and artifact, to
pursue a meditation on the life, death and value of object
I For Others, preceded by Marker and Resnais' film, is a
social and historical examination of cultural imperialism
and commodity that combines filmed footage, animation
and archival footage.

#### THOM ANDERSEN: RECONVERSÃO

Filmmaker in Attendance

2pm I Michigan Theater Screening Room

2pm I Michigan Theater Screening Room

12pm I Michigan Michigan I Michigan M

1pm | Michigan Theater Main Auditorium New experimental and documentary films featuring Deborrah Stratman's Hacked Circuit, and Model Village by Hayoun Kwon (awarded Best Film at the 50th AAFF).

#### THE FORGOTTEN SPACE

THE FORGOTTEN SPACE

2pm | UMMA Helmed Stern Auditorium | FREE

2pm | UMMA Helmed Stern Auditorium | 1 FREE

Directed by filmmaker and author Foed Burch (b. 1932) and the late artist, photographer and filmmaker Alam Sekula (1951-2013). The "Forgotten space" of Sekula and Burch's easy film is the sea, the oceans through which 90% of the world's cargo now passes. At the heart of this space is the container box, which, since its invention in the 1950s, has become one of the most important mechanisms for hee global spread of capitalism. The film follows the container box along the international supply elain, from ships to barges, trains, and trucks, mapping the byzamine networls that connect producers to consumers and more and more frequently, producing nations to consuming ones). Visiting the major ports of Rotrectain, Los Angeles, Hong Kong, Guangdong province, and many places between, it connects the economic puzze pleces that corporations and governments would prefer remain scattered.

Fortian in Competition

3pm 1 Michigan Theore Main Auditorium

3pm 1 Michigan Theore Main Auditorium

Michigan Theore Seasy film re-imagines the Mexico/U.S. border as a mythical place comparable to Dantie's purgatory. Leaving politics aside, he takes a fresh look at the brutab beauty of the border and the people caught in its spell. By capturing a stunning mosaic of compelling characters and broken landscapes that live on the U.S.Mexico border, the filmmaker reflects on the tlams of human nature and the powerful absurdities of the modern work of the modern work.

## **FILMS IN COMPETITION 12**

3pm | Michigan Theater Main Auditorium New experimental and documentary films

## AWARDED FILM PROGRAMS

The 52nd Ann Arbor Film Festival closing events provide a screening of select award-winning films provide a screening or s as chosen by our jury.

#### AWARD SCREENING 1

AWARD SCREENING 2 8:15pm 1 Michigan Theater Main Auditor Additional awarded films from the 52nd

AFTERPARTY
Alley Bar | 10pm-2am | FREE
Wrap up the 52nd AAFF with DJs and delicious
handcrafted cocktails!

The Forgotten Space (2010) by Noël Burch & Allan Sekula Sunday | 2pm

The Movement of People Working by Phill Niblock Work Gallery | March 19-April 5

Hats Off To Hollywood (1972) by Penelope Spheeris

Manakamana (2013) by Stephaine Spray & Pacho Velez Thursday | 6:45pm

Los Angeles Plays Itself (2003) by Thom Andersen Saturday | 12:30pm

