

IN THIS ISSUE:

- 2008 VSFF Recap & Photos 1-4
- News 4-5
- Events 5
- Screenings 6-7
- Submissions 7-8
- Upcoming Festivals 8
- Mandate 9

VANCOUVER STUDENT FILM FESTIVAL

2008 Festival RECAP

Thank you to everyone who attended the 2008 VSFF and made it a big success!

We had close to **200** attendees, a record **92** submissions received, **29** featured works from **9** schools and the most diverse program ever with **2** documentaries, **1** music video and **8** animations.

The 2008 Festival Winners included:

- Best Film:** *For You, My People* by Writer-Director Jose Pablo Gonzalez (Emily Carr)
- Best Director:** Terry Boake for *Touch* (UBC)
- PS Vancouver Award for Best Cinematography:** Kyle Shepard for *Touch* (UBC)
- Best Screenplay:** Marshall Axani for *Three A.M.* (Capilano College)
- Best Post-Production:** *8* by Animator Jeff Simpson (Emily Carr)
- City of Burnaby Best Use of Locations:** *The Playground Duel*, Director Jake Dunbar (AI)
- Best Actor:** Doug Price for *Three A.M.* (Capilano College)
- Best Actress:** Natasha Peck for *Touch* (UBC)
- Knowledge Network BC Perspectives Award:** *Beauty Lies*, Director Karen Chapman (Emily Carr)
- George McNeill Columbia Academy Audience Choice Award:** *Memories*, Director Glen Chua (SFU)

In addition, the top 5 films below will be featured on **Movieola, The Short Film Channel:**

- For You, My People** by Jose Pablo Gonzalez (Emily Carr)
- 8** by Jeff Simpson (Emily Carr)
- A Look at the Life of Morgan Green** by Dir. Kelvin Redvers (Simon Fraser University)
- Three A.M.** by Dir. Doug Kerr (Capilano College)
- After Oz** by Animator Percy Kiyabu (Vancouver Film School)

MEDIA COVERAGE included the **Westender, Georgia Straight, 24 Hours, and Langara Voice.**

24/7

VANCOUVER.24HRS.CA • MAY 23, 2008

21



Instant Reality by Sarah Hudson,
Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design
After Oz by Percy Kiyabu,
Vancouver Film School



Earning the grade

Student doesn't mean amateur.

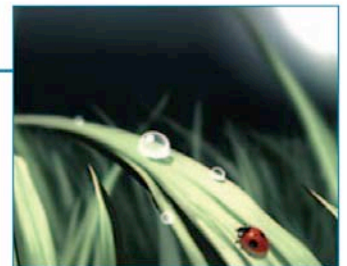
That's the message from Vancouver Student Film Festival director Sandra Garcia. "There's a stigma of amateurism surrounding student films," she says, "but a lot of these are as equally professional as the ones coming out of the industry at the major film festivals. It's time that Vancouver recognized the talent that's emerging out of the West Coast."

The festival, which returns following a one-year hiatus, will showcase 29 short films, videos and animation by some of B.C.'s top post-secondary talent and, according to Garcia, attendees can expect to see a diverse program. "We have an amazing lineup of shorts this year," she says. "Everything from comedy to fantasy, documentaries, drama, music video and animation."

A panel of eight industry professionals will judge the films to determine festival awards, worth over \$10,000 in cash and prizes.

Check out www.vdff.com for more information.

- Graeme McRanor, 24 hours



8 by Jeff Simpson, Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design

Vancouver Student Film Festival

- VIFC Vancity Theatre (1181 Seymour St.)
Saturday, May 24
- Screening & ticket information: SET A 5:30 p.m.,
SET B 8 p.m.
- Doors open 30 minutes prior to each screening.
- TICKETS at www.vdff.com: \$8 single, \$14 double
bill; at the door: \$10 single, \$16 double bill.



Cancelled, by Capilano College film student McKenzie Chipluk, will be featured at the Vancouver Student Film Festival.

FILM BRIEFS

Burgeoning directors fight 'student stigma' at film fest

When every film school in the city brings its brightest students' short works into one program, the ideas are bound to be creative, risky, and a sign of the percolating hometown talent.

Student filmmakers from Langara College, the Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design, Capilano College, Simon Fraser University, the University of British Columbia, Vancouver Art Institute and Vancouver Film School will compete at the third annual Vancouver Student Film Festival. Screenings from select students'

work takes place Saturday, May 24 at 5:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. at Vancity Theatre (1181 Seymour).

Festival director Sandra Garcia says the VSFF, which was launched by UBC film students in 1995, fights the stigma of amateurism that dogs student-made films, which she says are often as good as those coming out of commercial studios.

Shown in two screenings, the festival includes *Manhood*, Langara College student Melanie Jones's film about a woman who tries to make her husband more manly as they flee their war-torn neighbourhood for the nearby woods. Cancelled, by Capilano College's McKenzie Chipluk, tells the story of a man and woman who suddenly discover that they're characters in a 1950s television show. SFU's Sabreena Peters has crafted *Past the Skin*, a

short film in which a man discovers that a seemingly crazy homeless man can read his thoughts. In the animated short *After Oz*, Percy Kiyabu from Vancouver Film School, tells the story of a tin man who learns that having a heart isn't as easy as he hoped.

This year's judges include Crazy88 winner and *On The Lot* reality-show contestant Zach Lipovsky; Gwen Haworth, director of the much-lauded autobiographical documentary *She's A Boy I Knew*, and Uwe Boll, director of the feature film *Postal*, to be released in cinemas across North America May 23. The top five films will be

screened on Movieola, the Short Film Channel. Filmmakers who take the best film award will be awarded \$500 and an industry pass to the 2008 Whistler Film Festival.

Advance tickets are \$8 for a single screening and \$14 for a double bill at VSFF.com; \$10/16 at the door.

Download the full media pieces [here](#) or from our website's Media Room.

2008 FESTIVAL PHOTOS

All photos courtesy of Angela Liu



2008 Festival audience



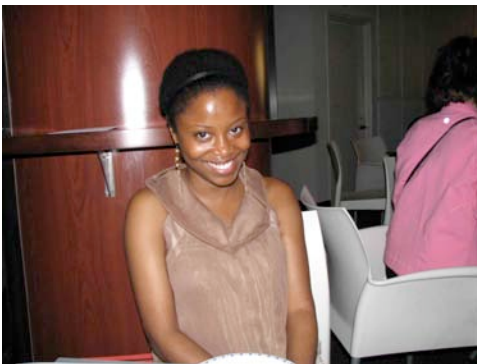
Graffiti sign by Tars



Cast of "Firebear Called Them Faith Healers" and friends at the after party



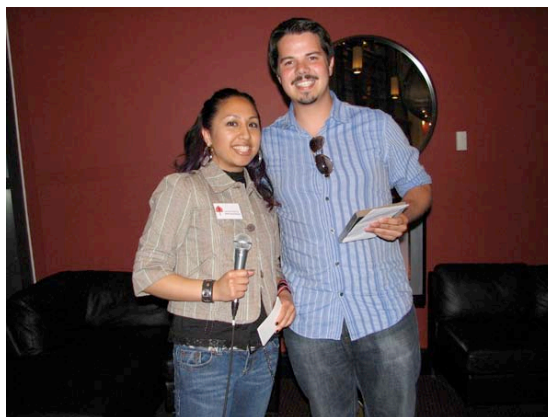
"Memories" cast Lee Majdoub & Melissa Demmers



"Beauty Lies" Director and Winner of the Knowledge Network BC Perspectives Award Karen Chapman



"Three AM" Director Doug Kerr accepts Best Actor Award for Doug Price, and Marshall Axani wins Best Screenplay



VSFF Festival Director Sandra Garcia with Best Film winner Jose Pablo Gonzalez for "For You, My People"



VSFF Volunteers & staff 2008



Join the **Vancouver Student Film Festival Facebook Group** to see the complete 2008 Photo Album!

THANK YOU to all of our sponsors, judges, volunteers and personnel who made our event possible:

Biz books
 Hollynorth
 Great Northern Way UBC campus
 Scene Shop
 Langara College
 UBC Film Program
 Canadian Film & TV Production Association BC Producer's Branch
 Deluxe
 UBC Arts Undergraduate Society
 Dean's Grant
 Whistler Film Festival
 SFU Contemporary Arts Program
 Reel West
 Macstation
 Columbia Academy
 IATSE 891
 24 Hours

Knowledge Network
 Maxell
 Production Services Vancouver
 The Tye
 William F White's
 City of Burnaby
 Dylan Akio Smith
 Uwe Boll
 Erik Paulsson
 Janine Bizzocchi Steele
 Zach Lipovsky
 Gwen Haworth
 Camyar Chai
 Velcrow Ripper
 Judy Nguyen
 Baharak Monir
 Film Snobs Digital Media
 Al Reid

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 Sim Video
 Budget Rentals
 EJ Garcia
 Vivian Olson
 Shauna Michell
 Cuong Loi
 Raj Kandola
 Mark MacDonald
 Carrie Baptiste
 Playback Magazine
 Movieola: The Short Film Channel
 Angela Liu
 Kelsey Chobotar
 Robin Mong
 J Bradford
 Westender

Carmen Forsberg
Kevin Oh
Jason Wong
Gillian McLeod
Karly Stilling
Esther Gim

Gerard Penalosa
Jessica Glass
Sharron Wilson
Liz Cheong
Frances Hall

Vancouver Film
School
Katherine Xie
Jasmine Hwang
Peter Carr

NEWS ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SOCIAL MEDIA, GAMING, WIRELESS
STORYTELLING NETWORKS...BE PART
OF THE NEXT WAVE OF INTERACTIVE
STORYTELLERS**




Join CFC Media Lab, Canada's first post-graduate
new media training and production facility.

Visit cfccreates.com and apply to the TELUS Interactive
Art & Entertainment Program (IAEP). Deadline: June 20, 2008.

The Babz Chula Lifeline for Artists Society

For more info and to donate, please visit
www.babzchulasociety.org

UBC FILM SCORES AT LEO AWARDS

Recent MFA Film graduate and VSFF judge **Gwen Haworth** earned the Best Screenwriting award for her UBC Film thesis *She's a Boy I Knew*. Former Adj. Prof. **John Zaritsky's** film *The Suicide Tourist* was awarded Best Documentary, Best Direction, and also won Best Cinematography for Adj. Prof. **Ian Kerr's** behind-the-camera work.

Highlights include Best Student Production to recent BFA Film graduates **Cat Mills** and **Lindsay Allikas** for their UBC student short *September*, while Best Feature went to the full-length feature *Elijah* by alumni **Mary Anne Waterhouse** (producer) and **Andria Spring** (associate producer) on the production team.

In television, alumni **Calum MacLeod** and **Mark McGuckin's** *Road Hockey Rumble*, produced by alumnus **Cal Shumiatcher**, won Best Comedy/Variety Series and Best Screenwriting.



UBC FILM COLLECTION REACHES 5,000

The UBC Film Collection, housed in the UBC Visual Resources Centre, recently passed the magic number of 5,000 films on DVD, videotape, laser disk and 16mm film. The collection includes movies from 38 countries from around the world and a special interest in Canadian motion pictures (one-fifth of the films are Canadian).

The collection forms the basis of UBC's courses in Film Studies and is widely used across the Faculty of Arts and is open to the UBC Community for in-house viewing.

The Visual Resources Centre, a joint venture of the Departments of Theatre and Film, Art History, and Visual Art and Theory, is in Room 206 of the Frederic Lasserre Building, 6333 Memorial Road. For more information, visit

<http://www.film.ubc.ca/library.shtml>.

VANCOUVERIAM.COM

Want to make a show, web series or video journalism piece but need some help from the technical department? Have a specific lighting question? Just need a refresher course? There are great resources out there. We've gathered them into one place.

Please visit the site and play around a bit. Vote for your favorite webisodes and films, respond to news and opinions, join a group, start a discussion. The more the better!

www.VancouverIAM.com

GIFTS (Gulf Islands Film & TV School) Upcoming Programs

Adult/Youth Media Intensive and Aboriginal Programs: June 22-28

Youth Media Intensive Programs: Check out the GIFTS website for available production focuses & dates.

Youth Director's Program: July 13-July 26, August 10-23

Adult Media Intensive Program: July 27-August 2

From Transformation to Action: August 2008 - July 2009

Participate in monthly workshops in your region (either Canada or Israel and Palestine). Present your films at public screenings in your community and develop your filmmaking and leadership skills through filmmaking workshops and projects.

Independent Media Producers' Programs: September 21-26, September 28-October 3

Click [here](#) for the full Calendar of courses.

Registration is available 24 Hours a day at www.GiftsFilms.com or 1-800-813-9993.

EVENTS



Vancouver Film School Film Production Open House

June 18, 2008, 6-8pm

VFS Café, 390 West Hastings (& Homer)

vfs.com

See what makes the VFS Film Production Program one of the best in the world. Talk with award-winning Dept. Head David Hauka. Hear from instructors in Directing, Cinematography, Post Production & Art Direction. Discuss creative challenges with students and alumni. Watch award-winning student films and find out more.

To register, contact openhouse@vfs.com or call 604.631.3591.

Vancouver Film Race 2008

Can you make a film in 24 hours?

The Vancouver Film Race will be challenging local filmmakers to create an original short film (4 minutes max) in just 24 hours from **Friday, June 20th to Saturday, June 21st**. All of the completed films will premiere for the public on **June 25th** at the Ridge Theatre and the best films will advance into a North American competition for over \$35,000 in cash and prizes. Anyone may register, but space is limited. Get your team together and sign up today! To register or learn more, visit <http://www.filmracing.com/Cities/vancouver.htm>



Special Discount - Use the discount code FILMRACER for \$10 off the entry fee. Entry Deadline **Wednesday, June 18**

SCREENING 9 PM Wednesday, June 25th (in place of the Celluloid Social Club)
Ridge Theatre, 3131 Arbutus St. at 16th Ave., Vancouver



Hosted by Brendan Beiser. Raffle and door prizes. \$9 at door (2 free tickets per team)

After party location TBA

Note: Non-Union Actors only.

The Vancouver Film Race is part of the Diesel Film Racing Tour that will be visiting 17 cities across North America. www.FilmRacing.com

SCREENINGS



First Weekend Club's CANADA SCREENS presents a sneak peek of **GLOBAL METAL**



From the creators of 'Metal: A Headbanger's Journey' comes the sneak-peek screening of the wildly anticipated and loudly received film **GLOBAL METAL**.

7 countries. 3 continents. One tribe.

Check out the trailer at www.globalmetalfilm.com.

First Weekend Club's Canada Screens and District 319 will ROCK YOUR WORLD!!! (Or at least your Thursday night)

Thursday June 19th get out your leather, your tassels, your glam-hair and your jeans so tight you need pliers to zip 'em (ummm or on 2nd thought, maybe just come as you are) all this while sipping fine wine and relaxing in the plush surroundings of District 319.

EVENT DETAILS:

Date: Thursday, June 19th

Place: **District 319** at 319 Main Street (formerly Cinema 319, directly across from the police station)

Doors: 6:30 PM (including one complimentary glass of wine)

Screening: **7:30PM**

Post screening reception and mingling to follow.

Cost: \$12 at the door / \$10 in advance via PayPal or call 604-983-5373. Advance tickets may be purchased online up to 3:00 PM on June 19.

Global Metal opens in Vancouver and Toronto **June 20th**.

Canada Screens is a monthly screening and talkback series that features the best of Canadian cinema. Canada Screens offers a unique movie going experience that includes conversations with filmmakers, special guests, mingling, and plenty of great wine.



Young People Fcking**

The Film that Sparked a National Debate Now Open Across Canada

*Young People F**king* is a hilarious gem with plenty of heart, offering a sly look at contemporary romance - and should not be missed!

This marks a most impressive feature film directorial debut by "Stargate: Atlantis" scribe **Martin Gero**, co-written wonderfully with **Aaron Abrams** who also stars in the film. The banter is sharp, quick, clever and sly. And the observations are sometimes downright embarrassingly accurate. Sure, all the couples have sex, but more important is the story behind why they do it. From the "prelude" to the "afterglow", Gero takes us there, with impeccable comedic timing, of course.

The Ridge Theatre, Sunday-Saturday, various showtimes

www.festivalcinemas.ca

THE STONE ANGEL

Feisty firecracker Hagar Shipley (Ellen Burstyn) has lived an unconventional life. Her passionate heart has always ruled her head and her choices have put her at odds with family and friends. With her life nearly behind her, she sets out in search of a way to reconcile herself to her turbulent past. Through her reflections we come to know a passionate and rebellious young bride, her love for her two sons, the freedoms she claimed, and the joys she denied herself.

Based on the best selling novel by Margaret Laurence.

Showing at: Cinemark Tinseltown Vancouver

Tuesday-Thursday 1:55 4:35 7:25 10:15

Official Site: www.thestoneangelmovie.com



SUBMISSIONS & CONTESTS

4th annual WOMEN AT PLAYS Festival

Women At Play(s) is currently looking for new original one act plays from female playwrights, emerging or established. This annual event has had very successful runs in the last 3 years with sold out shows and great reviews from audience members and critics.

Women At Play(s) provides a creative outlet for female playwrights, directors and actresses. It was created to give women a voice. It is meant to inspire and showcase artistic achievements in theatrical performance for women.

All characters must be female and the plays no longer than 20 minutes in length. It is produced as an Equity Co-op. Performances will be in early to mid January 2009.

Submissions may be emailed to mariannesawchuk@hotmail.com

Deadline: **June 30**

Source: Women in Film

whistler ⁰⁸
film festival
DECEMBER 04 - 07 NEW TERRAIN

Call for Entries

The 8th annual Whistler Film Festival runs from December 4 to 7, 2008. Canadian and International filmmakers are invited to submit by the following deadlines: **July 4** for early film submissions (discount on application); **July 18** for short films; and **August 15** for feature films.

Filmmakers are invited to submit films of all lengths and genres including drama, documentary, mountain culture and animated films. The Whistler Film Festival is a competitive festival with **\$42,000** value in five distinct awards: the \$15,000 Borsos Award for Best New Canadian Feature, the Audience Award for Best Feature, the \$5,000 Best Documentary Award, the \$1,000 Best Short Film Award, and the \$500 Best Mountain Culture Film Award. Applicants must choose only one category in which to compete.

More info: www.whistlerfilmfestival.com

Source: Women in Film

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Contact Annat Kennet 604.323.5561

LANGARA COLLEGE www.langara.bc.ca/cs/dfp

Cabbagetown

Short Film & Video Festival

The Cabbagetown Short Film & Video Festival is a juried show accepting submissions from around the world and it's just around the corner!

No entry fee required. Films must be no longer than **15 minutes** and submitted on labelled NTSC DVD only, along with application form to: Cabbagetown Short Film & Video Festival, 383 Sackville Street, Toronto, ON M5A 3G5

Entry Deadline: **July 31**

Screening **September 5**, 2008 at the Toronto Dance Theatre in Cabbagetown, Toronto

To download application go to our Web Site: www.cabbagetownshortfilmmandvideofestival.com

Source: Women in Film

Victoria Film Festival Call for Entries

The Victoria Film Festival running January 30-February 8, 2009, is pleased to announce its 2009 Call For Entries is now open. Deadlines are as follows:

Earlybird postmark deadline: **August 25th**, 2008

Regular postmark deadline: **September 24th**, 2008

Complete details are on our entry form which is now available at the website: www.victoriafilmfestival.com

Source: Women in Film

UPCOMING FILM FESTIVALS

Portugese Film Festival, June 10-24: www.portugueseilm.com

Tremblant Film Festival (Mont Tremblanc, QC), June 18-22: www.tremblantfilmfestival.org

Taiwanese Film Festival II: Footprints of Youth, June 20-22: www.twff.ca

Beach Blanket Film Festival (Penticton, BC), July 18-20: www.beachblanketfilmfest.ca

Project 8 Super 8 Festival, August 8-9: www.myspace.com/project8info

YoungCuts Film Festival (Montreal, QC), August 14-21: www.youngcuts.com

Vancouver Queer Film & Video Festival, August 14-24: www.outonscreen.com

Toronto International Film Festival (Toronto, ON), September 4-13: www.tiff08.ca

Ottawa International Animation Festival (Ottawa, ON), September 17-21: www.ottawa.awn.com

Antimatter Underground Film Festival (Victoria, BC), September 19-27: www.antimatter.ws

Student Shorts Film Festival (Toronto, ON), September 26-27: www.endless-films.com/studentshorts/2002.htm

Edmonton International Film Festival (Edmonton, AB), September 26-October 4: www.edmontonfilmfest.com

Vancouver International Film Festival, September 26-October 10: www.viff.org

MANDATE

The concept behind the Vancouver Student Film Festival is to promote the already vibrant community of young Canadian filmmakers in the province. By showcasing the films of students and recent graduates from post secondary film institutions, we hope to enhance the lines of communication that currently exist and provide an arena where emerging current and former student filmmakers can show their films to the public, as well as meet and view the work of their fellow colleagues.

The organizers continue to raise awareness for young film, video and new media pioneers and provide a unique opportunity for local and national businesses and the movie-going public to show their commitment to the BC student film community.

VSFF is a registered non-profit society.

ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

To submit articles, announcements, or news bytes for inclusion in the next VSFF newsletter, please send an email to sandra@vsff.com. Max. 300 words and no more than two photos or images, please. Deadline for October 2008 inclusion: **September 29, 2008**.

To subscribe or unsubscribe to this e-newsletter, please email sandra@vsff.com with the appropriate word in the Subject line.



2008 VSFF Event Staff

Lillian Wei, Ancilla Chui, Sandra Garcia, Devon Cooke, Mike Tanassee, Rita Farkas
Missing: Jun Paul Obayashi, Spencer Kent
Photo credit: Angela Liu

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