



VANCOUVER
SHORT
FILM FESTIVAL

January 2010

Issue #11

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VANCOUVER SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

1st Annual Vancouver Short Film Festival Recap

Happy New Year everyone! We would like to start off by thanking everyone who helped to make our first festival as the new VSFF a success:

Our Sponsors: Vancouver 24 Hours, CityTV, William F. White, Movieola The Short Film Channel, High Deaf Productions, Directors Guild of Canada BC, The Audio Coalition, Emily Carr University, Production Services Vancouver, Columbia Academy, Westender, Simon Fraser University, Capilano University, City of Burnaby, Selkirk College, Langara College, Vancouver Animation, PitchPage, Rayacom, Pacific Backlot, IATSE 891, Wendy D Photography, Jeff Chiba Stears (Meditating Bunny Studio), Macinhome, MVCC, Andrew Williamson, Maxell, Storybubble Pictures, Annex Pro, Deluxe, Women In Film & Television Vancouver, The Tipper Restaurant, and Take 5 Café.

Because of your support, we surpassed last year's sponsorship amount by \$6,000 and garnered \$9,200 more in prizes for filmmakers.

Our Volunteers: Lillian Wei, Alison Chan, Monica Stewart, Joanne Koh, Amy, Andrea Semenik, HyeJung Shin, Ketian Maggie Dou, Maggie Foun, Pyra Draculea, Eunice Cheng, Lia Haleem, Angel Kao, Brendan Christopher Orchard, Kirsten Harvie, Alison Chen, Vivien Cui, Cuong Loi, Rita Yee, Latham Elle, Akina Lam, Jess Strothard, Emily He, Jason Wong, Charlene, Angela Liu, and Amy Zheng.

We apologize for anyone whose name may have been missed from this list.

Our Judges: Kate Green, Ryan Catherwood, Kryshan Randel, Sue Biely, Amanda Tapping, and Julia Kwan.

Because of your time we were able to award 10 more awards this year than in previous years!

Our audience totaled nearly 500 people over two days, and we received rave reviews from both attendees and media: CJSF Artsindy Crossroads, The Vancouver Times, The Shorts Report (by blogger and panel moderator Kellie Ann Benz), and The Lacombe Globe.

See our **Media Coverage** page at www.vsff.com to hear the audio interviews with the filmmakers and see excerpts of the media coverage.

"On behalf of myself, and the rest of the production team, I just wanted to thank you for including our film in this year's festival. It was a great evening and we all enjoyed the screenings very much. It is always great to be a part of a festival here at home, and we're so honoured to be part of such a great selection of films. We hope that we will be able to be part of such a great event for short filmmakers in the years to come."

– Shaun McKinlay, Director, *The Escape of Conrad Lard-Bottom*



MOVIEOLA
THE SHORT FILM CHANNEL



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2009 VANCOUVER SHORT FILM FESTIVAL WINNERS!

WILLIAM F. WHITE AWARD FOR BEST PROFESSIONAL SHORT FILM - **The Light of Family Burnam**

WILLIAM F. WHITE AWARD FOR BEST STUDENT SHORT FILM - **Not Another Damn Musical!**

DIRECTOR'S GUILD OF CANADA BC AWARD FOR BEST DIRECTOR IN A PROFESSIONAL SHORT FILM - **Marshall Axani** for *The Light of Family Burnam*

VSFF BEST DIRECTOR AWARD IN A STUDENT SHORT FILM - **Jeffrey Zabloutny** for *Max*

PS VANCOUVER BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY PRIZE IN A PROFESSIONAL SHORT FILM - **Danny Nowak** for *The Light of Family Burnam*

PS VANCOUVER BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY PRIZE IN A STUDENT SHORT FILM - **Athan Merrick** for *The Escape of Conrad Lard Bottom*

VSFF BEST SCREENPLAY AWARD IN A PROFESSIONAL SHORT FILM - **Marshall Axani** for *The Light of Family Burnam*

VSFF BEST SCREENPLAY AWARD IN A STUDENT SHORT FILM - **Jeffrey Zabloutny** for *Max*

MACINHOME AWARD FOR BEST EDITING IN A PROFESSIONAL SHORT FILM - **Chris Bizzocchi** for *Kodiak*

MVCC AWARD FOR BEST EDITING IN A STUDENT SHORT FILM - **Aaron Chiesa, Toru Kageyama, Hendry Sukarya, Lisa Temes** for *Iran: A Nation of Bloggers*

THE AUDIO COALITION AWARD FOR BEST AUDIO DESIGN IN A PROFESSIONAL SHORT FILM - **The Light of Family Burnam**

STORYBUBBLE PICTURES AWARD FOR BEST SOUND IN A STUDENT SHORT FILM - **Not Another Damn Musical!**

CITY OF BURNABY AWARD FOR BEST USE OF LOCATION IN A STUDENT SHORT FILM - **Latte America**

VSFF BEST ACTOR AWARD IN A PROFESSIONAL SHORT FILM - **David Lewis** for *The Light of Family Burnam*

VSFF BEST ACTRESS AWARD IN A PROFESSIONAL SHORT FILM - **Monica Mustelier** for *God's Squad*

VSFF BEST ACTOR AWARD IN A STUDENT SHORT FILM - **Neil Mackay** for *Max*

VSFF BEST ACTRESS AWARD IN A STUDENT SHORT FILM - **Madison Desjarlais** for *Missing Alice*

WOMEN IN FILM & TELEVISION VANCOUVER BEST FEMALE DIRECTOR AWARD IN A PROFESSIONAL SHORT FILM - **Angelina Cantada** for *Let's Play Boccia!*

VSFF AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARD FOR A PROFESSIONAL SHORT FILM - **The Light of Family Burnam**

GEORGE MCNEILL COLUMBIA ACADEMY AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARD FOR A STUDENT SHORT FILM - **The Escape of Conrad Lard Bottom**

To see our festival photos, please visit our website at www.vdff.com. Thanks to our photographer Angela Liu!

***2010 VSFF entries will open in the Spring of 2010 in mid-February or early March. Keep updated via our newsletter and our website, www.VSFF.com. ***



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ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEWS

Public Service Announcement – “ARTLESS”

As you likely already know, the BC Government has expressed the desire to cut up to **92%** of arts funding in BC, in addition to the cuts already made to the gaming grants. A PSA entitled *ARTLESS*, by local filmmaker and VSFF 2009 judge Kryshan Randel, was made in response to this situation.

Please view the film now at www.youtube.com/watch?v=3DSlctLvQG4&feature=player_embedded if you have not done so already.

*Directed By Kryshan Randel, written by Kryshan Randel and Cara Yeates, produced by Cara Yeates, Mathieu Wacowich and Kryshan Randel, director of photography Toby Gorman, edited by Greg Ng, music by Aaron Grain. Starring Alex Ferris, who appeared in VSFF multi-award winning film **The Light of Family Burnam**.*

Then, visit www.artlesspsa.wordpress.com and learn how you can take action. The VSFF has yet to receive any arts funding from the BC or Federal Government, so these cuts still affect our festival. Without corporate sponsorship and the financial support of post-secondary institutions in BC, we would not be able to put our festival on at all.

ARTLESS will be screening at various movie theatres around town, including the Vancity Theatre. It is also airing on KVOS, Shaw TV and Novus TV, and they are trying to get further airtime for it. If anyone has any suggestions as to how we can get this out there further, please email kryshanr@hotmail.com or carayeates@gmail.com.

Websites to visit:

www.PrimeTimeinOttawa.ca - **PRIME TIME IN OTTAWA**: February 17-19, 2010. 2010 is a pivotal year for content production, broadcasting and new forms of distribution. What does the **New** Brave New World have in store for us? Find out at this event. (Source: Playback)

www.Nonviolentmovies.org - **THE NON-VIOLENT MOVIE FOUNDATION**: Founded by Steve Cosmic of Bushpilot Productions, the foundation encourages and supports new filmmakers to make non-violent movies by providing small grants for short films, and seed money for feature films.

www.rozdigital.com - **ROZ DIGITAL MEDIA INC**: VSFF 2009 Sponsor Roz McNulty of PitchPage.com now films corporate events. Contact her at roz@rozdigital.com for all your event video needs.



NATIONAL SCREEN INSTITUTE NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS TO KELLIE ANN BENZ, NSI's newest columnist!

Filmmaker, author, The Shorts Report blogger and VSFF 2009 panel moderator, will be writing a regular column for the NSI starting early 2010.

The Shorts Report: www.theshortsreport.blogspot.com

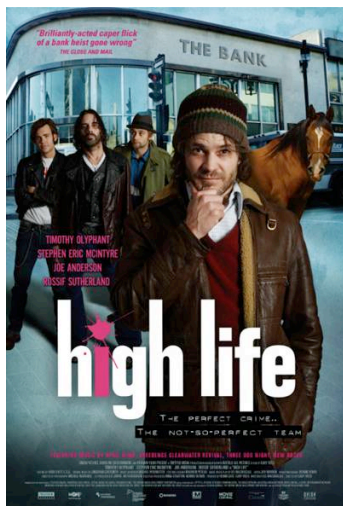
More info on the NSI website:

www.nsi-canada.ca/shorts_filmmaker_kellie_ann_benz_to_write_a_column_for_nsi_website.aspx

FILMS AND EVENTS

TAKE A BREAK AND WATCH:

Father Fred: Bill's gone to Father Fred for guidance. Sometimes though, the best advice is not what you want to hear. By Producer/Director Nicholas Humphries. Comedy, 4:00, BC, 2007
www.nsi-canada.ca/father_fred.aspx



Free Advance screening of **HIGH LIFE**
 Monday, January 11, 7:00PM
 Fifth Avenue Cinemas, 2110 Burrard Street, Vancouver

SYNOPSIS

Set in 1983 just after the birth of Automated Teller Machines (ATMs), *High Life* is a story about kinship, loyalty, and honor among thieves.

TRAILER:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rFuIJCf7Dro>

RSVP your full name, mailing address and desired number of double passes to maryc@ampr.ca.

WOMEN IN FILM & TELEVISION MONTHLY NETWORKING BREAKFAST

Get the New Year off to a great start with “**The Pitch – Breaking Down the Basics for Getting Beyond One Foot In The Door**” with guest speaker Danika Dinsmore at **8:15 am on Tuesday, January 19th** at The Grind & Gallery Coffee Bar. Free for WIFTV members, only \$10 for non-members. No pre-registration necessary, everyone welcome!

PitchMarket 2010

March 6-7, 2010

GOLD PASSES SOLD OUT – A LIMITED NUMBER OF SILVER PASSES LEFT!!

Register before Jan 15 to get in on the second prize draw! Pitchmarket 2010 features the opportunity to meet decision makers at every level, from big budget studio execs to low-budget indie producers.

NEW FOR 2010: TV Series Pitch Competition! Any registrant of PitchMarket 2010 (Sunday PM or Combo Pass) is eligible to apply for FREE! Your TV Series may be any style, length, or genre. Submissions will be juried by industry professionals and **TEN** finalists will be selected to pitch LIVE on Sunday, March 7, 2010. Pitches will be 20 minutes in length and will include feedback from the executives. The BEST PITCH wins CASH as well as professional development services such as a development workshop, script consultation, and industry memberships.

See www.ftxevents.com/Pages/pitchmarket.html for more info and to register.

See www.ftxevents.com/News/EnewsDEC22_09.pdf to see the confirmed speakers.

CONTESTS AND SUBMISSIONS

EVENT:	DEADLINE(S)	WEBSITE:
Women In Film Festival (April 17-18, 2010)	January 14	www.womeninfilm.ca/WIFF_2010.html
Made in Vancouver Festival (Feb. 13-27, 2010)	January 15	www.iheartvanart.com
Hot Docs Film Festival 2010	January 15	www.hotdocs.ca
Super Catalyst Emerging Screenwriter Award	January 15	www.superchannel.ca
BlueCat Screenplay Competition	January 20, Feb. 1, March 1	www.bluecatscreenplay.com/script_analysis
Leo Awards (June 5, 2010)	January 29	www.leoawards.com
Golden Sheaf Awards	February 1	www.goldensheafawards.com
Banff World Television Awards Program Competition (June 13-16, 2010)	February 1	www.banff2010.com/banff.world.television.awards.php
CFC Worldwide Short Film Festival (June 1-6, 2010)	February 5	www.shorterisbetter.com
NSI Online Short Film Festival 2010	February 10	www.nsi-canada.ca/nsi_online_film_fest_accepting_films_until_feb_10_2010.aspx
Dawson City International Film Festival PSA/trailer competition (April 1-4, 2010)	February 15	www.dawsonfilmfest.com
Vancouver Latin American Film Festival (VLAFF) Poster Contest	April 30	www.vlaff.org
VLAFF Submissions (September 2010)	June 1	www.vlaff.org/en/submissions

Hot Docs: The Astral Media Scholarship Call for Applications

Hot Docs and Astral Media announce a call for applications for the 3rd year of **The Astral Media Emerging Documentary Filmmakers Scholarship Programme**, an initiative designed for emerging-level filmmakers who are intending to pursue documentary production as a viable, long-term career option. Applications may be submitted in French or English. Astral Media's Doc U Scholarship Programme provides 5 emerging filmmakers from Quebec and British Columbia with enrollment to the week-long **Doc U programme**, which provides doc-makers who are completing or who have recently completed film school with invaluable behind-the-scenes festival experience through mentorship and curated sessions with industry professionals. Astral Media's Doc U Scholarship Programme provides a \$1,000 travel stipend as well as full industry accreditation to Hot Docs festival, conference and market events.

ELIGIBILITY AND CRITERIA: Applicants must reside and work in either BC or Quebec. They must also:

- Be at an emerging career level with a demonstrated commitment to their profession (i.e. membership with a professional organization, volunteer work in the film and television industry, and a CV indicating past experience working in documentary)
- Candidates must have financial need and high potential illustrated through demonstrated success, commit to participating fully in the programme (schedules must be conducive to attending the events/training), be creative, innovative, resourceful, and willing to help push the boundaries of the documentary genre, and desire to deepen their understanding of financing, co-production, and access to broadcasters

HOW TO APPLY: Please email mfong@hotdocs.ca by **Friday, February 5, 5:00pm**. Include a cover sheet with your name, the name of your production company, mailing address, telephone number, fax number and email address, followed by:

- A 1-page letter outlining your interest in participating in The Astral Media Emerging Documentary Filmmakers Scholarship Programme and how you feel you would benefit professionally from the experience
- A current resume, including a list of your key production credits (maximum 2 pages)
- A 1-page brief description of your current documentary projects in development

UPCOMING FILM FESTIVALS

Vancouver Island Short Film Festival	January	www.visff.com
Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival	January 22-29	www.vimff.org
Spark FX 10	January 27-February 1	www.siggraph.ca
Victoria Film Festival	January 29-February 7	www.victoriafilmfestival.com
World Community Film Festival	January 29-31	www.codev.org/filmfest
Port Moody Canadian Film Festival	February	www.pmfilm.ca
Powell River Film Festival	February 18-21	www.prfilmfestival.ca
Talking Stick Festival	February 21-28	www.fullcircleperformance.ca

JOIN THE 2010 VANCOUVER SHORT FILM FESTIVAL TEAM!

Besides the fact that this will be our 2nd year as the new Vancouver Short Film Festival, there will be a lot of changes, including additions to our volunteer staff. We are currently taking applications for the following internships:

- Webmaster
- Print (Graphic) Designer
- Marketing Coordinator
- Sponsorship Coordinator
- Submissions Coordinator
- 2 Programmers (members of the Programming Committee)
- Festival Director

2008-2009 Festival Director **Sandra Garcia** will be phasing herself out from her role as Festival Director and will stay on as Marketing Director and curator for the World's Best Shorts programme in 2010.

For descriptions of all positions, visit our website at www.VSFF.com.

TO APPLY:

- Send your resume and a cover letter in the body of an email to apply@vsff.com by **January 22, 2010**.

For the programming position, please include in the cover letter a blurb about your favourite film or director, and why you think you would be fit for programming our festival.

For the Festival Director position, please email apply@vsff.com to request the description.

BENEFITS OF WORKING WITH THE FESTIVAL:

- Two tickets or a pass to the festival (depending on position)
- A reference letter from the appropriate departmental director or Festival Director, if requested.
- Professional experience with working with a non-profit society and on a real event
- Recognition in the festival programme and website
- The opportunity to stay on in the position in 2011 and/or have input in the long-term vision of the VSFF.



VANCOUVER
SHORT
FILM FESTIVAL

VANCOUVER SHORT FILM FESTIVAL E-Newsletter

Got news?

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 April 2010 inclusion: **March 31, 2010.**

Website:

www.vsff.com

E-Mail:

info@vsff.com

VANCOUVER SHORT FILM FESTIVAL SOCIETY MANDATE

The Vancouver Short Film Festival is committed to the promotion of the vibrant community of short film, video and new media artists in the province of British Columbia. By showcasing the films of post-secondary students, alumni, and professionals in the same festival, we hope to build ties between emerging and established filmmakers, allowing BC's film industry to grow and flourish. We provide an arena where all levels of short filmmakers and artists can screen their films in public and support the work of their fellow colleagues.

The Vancouver Short Film Festival Society's vision is to raise awareness for creative pioneers in the BC film, video and new media industries, including those living in or representing local Aboriginal communities. The festival aims to advance the career goals of artists by providing opportunities for exhibition and distribution, celebrating the achievements of artists working on the Canadian West Coast in the medium of short film, and creating lasting working relationships for filmmakers within the BC Film Industry.