



**Cancelled**, by Capilano College film student McKenzie Chipiuk, 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 homegrown 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 10 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 Chipiuk, 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 *Crazy8s* 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 Ulwe 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.



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