

Black Earth Film Festival September 16-18, 2010

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Thursday, September 16 - 7 pm
Carl Sandburg College Theatre
(Parking Lots E-H)

Amber and Andre 7 min.
Directed by Elyce Strong
Amber & Andre is the story of a young couple very much in love, but from two vastly different worlds. The film explores the theme of acceptance within love as Amber prepares to take Andre home to meet her parents for the first time.

Backyard 7 min.
Directed by Alex Megaro
A young child witnesses his neighbor having an affair and is bribed with a toy to stay quiet about the ordeal.

Deep Sleep 17 min.
Directed by Alejandro Alvarez
Cameron and his sister Fiona are torn apart by the tragic death of Eleanor, his wife and her best friend.

The Desperate 33 min.
Directed by Ben Hur Sepehr
On a rainy night in a concentration camp, a fearsome Nazi general is forced to plead with a condemned Jewish doctor to save his dying only son.

DESSICATOR 12 min.
Directed by Wijnand Geraerts
Extreme weather conditions lash the plateau keeping people in a state of constant struggle from which there is no escape. The elements mold the landscape into an abstract beauty that goes beyond its own geological context. The soundtrack identifies with an invisible, virtual traveler and guides the spectator through a direct confrontation with the overwhelming nature and the destiny of its spare population.

Graduation Day 6 min.
Directed by Isaac Holze
A student has rapped his way through his oral exam and is in danger of not graduating.

Presence 13 min.
Directed by Luke Gallo
A young man has lost everything until an unexpected guest arrives and shows him what he is really missing.

Stalk 14 min.
Directed by David Ebel
Stalk pulls the audience into the life of Jane Eckert. This short film uses found-footage style to show viewers what is essentially Jane's worst Christmas ever.

Three Blind Mice 23 min.
Directed by Jade Holmes
Uncertainty looms over the heads of three men, notably different, yet all on the same path searching for opportunity in the nation's capital. Armed with limitless potential, these men's lives will take an unexpected turn when power and race collide.

It's Not About the Coffee 18 min.
Directed by Thomas Morris
A heartbroken barista finds that she might be able to love again after colliding into an old friend.

Reprisal 17 min.
Directed by Tyler Wirtanen
Max's ideal life degrades into a demented quest for blood after the tragic loss of his daughter.

Friday, September 17 - 7 pm
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Alice in Blunderland 5 min.
Director Walker Kelly
In the middle of nowhere, Alice finds herself with a decision. After eating a mysterious cookie, Alice dies. After recapturing her spirit, Alice flees. Soon after, a rabbit comes and drinks the potion Alice left. He grows incredibly big and scares away the villain behind it all: The Red Queen.

Big Trash Day 5 min.
Directed by Tom Engebretson
Ivy and Audrey have many adventures during Galesburg's big trash day.

Love and Valor – the Intimate Civil War Letters 88 min.

Directed by Charles Larimer
The movie, narrated by Brian Dennehy, is a dramatic story of the American Civil War as told through the actual letters of a Union Captain from Iowa and his wife. Based on the book 'Love and Valor - Intimate Civil War Letters Between Captain Jacob and Emeline Ritner' which was featured by the Smithsonian in the month after 9/11. Captain Jacob Ritner was a teacher, farmer and abolitionist before the war. Emeline remained home to raise four small children and manage the family farm. Their story is also a story of community. As Jacob tells stories of young soldiers under his command, Emeline relates the stories of their parents

back in Iowa. This film also includes the strange story of how their great great grandson, filmmaker Charles Larimer, found their letters.

Mindefect: I Will Not Break a String 90 min.

Directed by Eric Hanson

This film starts with a brief history getting us up to speed in 2008 when it all blew up for Galesburg's Mindefect. Using Myspace and other internet music sites, the band promoted their music and entered several on line band contests. One in particular, Live Indie Rock Wars in Las Vegas, caught the eye of lead singer Free who entered the band in a rock battle to take place on the Lake of Las Vegas. The band submitted music and with much persistence, got chosen along with twenty other bands to compete. They didn't win, but it spurred them on to promote heavily on line after Vegas, and a trip to NYC followed with 15 grand in prize money. The adventures of I Will Not Break a String were not without struggle, heartache and sweat. In the end it was one hell of a year that this band from Galesburg will not soon forget.

Saturday, September 18 - 7 pm

Carl Sandburg Historic Site

331 E. Third St.

(Session begins when darkness permits)

Bring a Picnic Dinner!

The Accident 6 min.

Directed by Abigail Hargrave

As Amelia drives her friends up the winding road to Mt. Buller, she recounts the story of a car accident that her family was involved in on the same road 20 years earlier. The accident informs so much of her family memories that even though it happened before she was born, she feels as though she remembers it.

The Attack of Robots from Nebula-5 7 min.

Directed by Chema García Ibarra

Almost everybody is going to die very soon.

Cat's Cradle 4 min.

Directed by Ray Rea

Cat's Cradle combines Xerox animation and analog rotoscope techniques with digital effects. Two generations of animation technique collide in this raw film/video. Original soundtrack by Helena Thompson of Purest Spiritual Pigs.

An Eye Doesn't Forget 4 min.

Directed by Giuseppe Chiesa

The eye records and the brain memorizes, but memories with time fade away. Is it possible to remember the first days of life and to never forget the first time when the sea is seen? In the realization of this short film, the director used old familiar 8mm films and treaded them with acid and

enamel. He wanted to create a worm out image as a perfect metaphor of memories.

Insurgency of Ambition 8 min.

Directed by Anya Belkina

The illusion of success lures a man to the very threshold of glory only to unsheathe its true, frightening nature as he gets within reach.

Kidnap 7 min.

Directed by Sijia Luo

A little chicken is late to school, but her excuse is too wild to believe: Getting kidnapped on the way to school. You believe not, this chicken is a really good actress and Kung Fu master! After her explanation, you have to believe that her adventure is so true.

The Lift 5 min.

Directed by Robert Kohr

Everyone has been guilty of small misdeeds at one point or another. The Lift explores the consequences of one all too common act of not holding the elevator door open for someone eager to get on, or worse, pushing the close button. An elevator interaction goes wrong, prompting a young woman to learn about being insensitive and to never make the same mistake again.

Scottish Bob 7 min.

Directed by Darren McFarlane

When the family gets together, it is a constant struggle to avoid the day ending in disaster.

The Scientist's Apprentice 5 min.

Directed by Brad Highland

A janitor battles an army of rubber gloves after a chemical spill in a scientist's lab.

Sita Sings the Blues 82 min.

Directed by Nina Paley

Sita is a goddess separated from her beloved Lord and husband Rama. Nina is an animator whose husband moves to India, then dumps her by email. Three hilarious shadow puppets narrate both ancient tragedy and modern comedy in this beautifully animated interpretation of the Indian epic Ramayana. Set to the 1920's jazz vocals of Annette Hanshaw, Sita Sings the Blues earns its tagline as "the Greatest Break-Up Story Ever Told".

Skylight 5 min.

Directed by David Baas

An animated mock documentary about the ecological plight of penguins in the Antarctic; possibly foretelling cataclysmic results for the rest of the world.

Fest Pass: \$12 per person or Individual Sessions: \$5
Tickets online @ ticketderby.com
& at Galesburg Civic Art Center