

## **Social & Political**

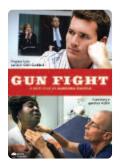




#### **BITTER SEEDS**

A film by MICHA X. PELED - USA | 2011 | 90 & 58'

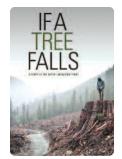
A vivid, rich and deep new documentary, **BITTER SEEDS** takes us down to the field, the seed store, and the family anxious about having enough for a daughter's dowry. How is it that a hardworking farmer and father arrives at a point in life where the most sensible course of action is to kill himself by drinking a bottle of pesticide? It all makes horrible sense once you understand the forces at work: the tragic intersection of a high-tech industrial agriculture and a traditional culture. Much more than a polemic against Monsanto and biotechnology, **BITTER SEEDS** is a tragedy for our times, beautifully told and deeply disturbing.



#### **GUN FIGHT**

A NEW film by BARBARA KOPPLE - USA | 2011 | 90'

**GUN FIGHT**, by two-time Oscar-winner Barbara Kopple, takes a fresh look at the impact of guns in America, through vivid stories of people who have a personal stake in the issue. With an estimated 250 million privately-owned guns in America, about 30,000 people are killed by guns in the U.S. every year, and another 65,000 wounded. Through characters like a gun lobbyist steeped in politics, an ER doctor turned gun researcher, gunshot victims (among them a survivor of the Virginia Tech massacre) and young people trying to make sense of how guns play into their lives, **GUN FIGHT** provides a fresh perspective on an unavoidable part of America's image and reality.



## **IF A TREE FALLS: A Story of The Earth Liberation Front**

A film by MARSHALL CURRY - USA | 2011 | 85' & 58'

Focusing on Oregon-based activist Daniel McGowan, **IF A TREE FALLS** relates the tale of a mild-mannered, middle-class citizen driven to extremes and brought to trial on charges of terrorism for his participation in ELF-related arson plots. Detailing activists' past disillusionment with peaceful public protest, the film poses difficult questions about the possibility of effecting change from either within or without the System in a world fixated on branding all dissenters as terrorists.

**Best Editing Award Sundance 2011** 



### **MOTHER: Caring for 7 Billion**

A film by CHRISTOPHE FAUCHERE - USA | 2011 | 52'

Unique film that breaks a 40-year taboo by bringing to light an issue that silently fuels our most pressing environmental, humanitarian and social crises - population growth. It is a critical time to talk about this subject as in 2011 the world's population will be seven billion. At the same time, talking about population has become politically incorrect because of the sensitivity of the issues surrounding the topic—religion, economics, family planning and gender inequality. Yet it is an issue we cannot afford to ignore as 1 billion people still suffer from chronic hunger.



#### **SPLIT: A DIVIDED AMERICA**

A film by KELLY NYKS - USA | 2009, updated in 2011 | 52'

The USA is in the grips of a rancorous partisanship the like of which has not been seen in nearly a century. Every political issue today invariably becomes a pitched partisan battle, irrespective of the issue - be it the economy, global climate change, education or foreign policy. The two parties are further apart than they have been in generations and this extreme polarization has made it nearly impossible to govern the country effectively. How has the United States become so divided? **SPLIT** journeys from coast to coast to find an answer to that question at a time when it is needed most. Through candid conversations with citizens from all walks of life and commentary from some of the sharpest minds analyzing government and society today.



# **Arts & Culture**



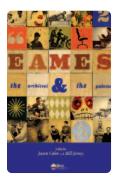


#### **BECOMING BERT STERN**

A film by SHANNAH LAUMEISTER - USA | 2011 | 93'



"Bad boy" photographer, original madman and cultural icon Bert Stern, who has made the world's most gorgeous and sensual women his subject for 50 years (Marilyn Monroe's Last Sitting, Audrey Hepburn, Elizabeth Taylor, Claudia Cardinale, Brigitte Bardot, Twiggy, Lolita, Kate Moss, Scarlett Johansson, etc) becomes the subject, revealing his untold wild life story to his long time-muse.



## **EAMES: The Architect and the Painter**

A film by JASON COHN and BILL JERSEY, Narrated by JAMES FRANCO. a PBS/AMERICAN MASTE PRESENTATION USA | 2011 | 83'

The husband-and-wife team of Charles and Ray Eames are widely considered America's most important designers. Perhaps best remembered for their mid-century plywood and fiberglass furniture, the Eames Office also created a bewildering variety of other products, from splints for wounded military during World War II, to photography, interiors, multi-media exhibits, graphics, games, films and toys. The film draws from a trove of archival material, primarily the stunning films and photographs produced in mind-boggling volume by Charles, Ray, and their staff during the hyper-creative forty years of the Eames Office.

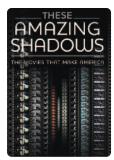


#### THE CURSE OF THE GOTHIC SYMPHONY

A WILD FURY FILM - Australia | 2011 | 90' & 58'



Said to be cursed for over 80 years, the immense 'Gothic Symphony', written by obscure British composer Havergal Brian in the early 20th century has remained virtually unperformed in its entirety. At over 2 hours long and requiring 2 orchestras, 4 brass bands and 5 full choirs singing 42 parts, this is perhaps not surprising. Can a small group of brave enthusiasts overcome a century old curse to stage the longest, largest and most complex symphony ever composed?



### **THESE AMAZING SHADOWS: The Movies That Make America**

A film by PAUL MARIANO and KURT NORTON - USA | 2011 | 58'

What do Casablanca, Blazing Saddles and West Side Story have in common? They are on a list of "culturally, historically or aesthetically significant" movies compiled by the Library of Congress in the USA. **THESE AMAZING SHADOWS** shows an extraordinary selection of scenes from these American cinema treasures and indeed the American experience itself. And they tell us so much about ourselves..." not just what we did, but what we thought, what we felt, what we aspired to, and the lies we told ourselves".

**World Premiere: Sundance 2011** 



# **Human and other Interest**

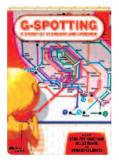




### THE DARK SIDE OF THE SUN

A film by CARLO HINTERMANN - Italy | 2011 | 90' & 58'

This film is the moving account of the lives of a group of children suffering from Xeroderma Pigmentosum, also called XP, at Camp Sundown, a summer camp held in upstate New York children who suffer from XP can gather and play at night, hoping for a normal life. XP is a rare and lethal illness, where the body's ability to repair damage caused by ultraviolet (UV) light is deficient. In extreme cases all exposure to sunlight must be forbidden, no matter how small. Fewer than 40% of individuals with the disease survive beyond age of 20.



## **G-SPOTTING: A Story of Pleasure and Promise**

A film by SÉGOLÈNE HANOTAUX, GILLES BOVON and HOWARD GOLDBERG Canada / France | 2011 | 52'

A joyful and surprising film, filled with colorful characters, exploring science, sexual liberation, ideological conflicts, and of course... pleasure. How, in 2011, can myths still exist around female sexuality? How is it the mere mention of this erotic region provokes such argument, doubt, and even salacious laughter? How can this simple erogenous zone, mysteriously identified as the "G spot", be known to all yet... only very few know its location, its physiology or the story of its discovery?



### ICEBOUND: The Story of the 1925 Alaska Serum Run A film by DANNY ANKER - USA | 2011 | 90'

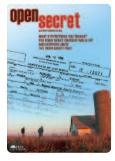
On January 28, 1925, a terrifying story broke: Diphtheria had broken out among the children of Nome, Alaska, separated from the rest of the world each year for seven months by a frozen ocean. With barely any antitoxin on hand, the death toll for Nome and other outlying communities could potentially reach into the thousands. Soon after the outbreak, precious supply of life-saving serum was located more than 1,000 miles away. The few small planes out there were unable to fly in what was one of the harshest winters on record. There was only one way: only dogsled transport could save the town. In minus 60, more than twenty men, and 150 dogs, among them BALTO, set out via dogsled to relay the antitoxin across 674 miles of Alaskan wilderness to save the town from the lethal epidemic.



#### **INSIDE LARA ROXX**

A film by MIA DONOVAN - Canada | 2011 | 80' & 58'

In the spring of 2004, 21-year old Lara Roxx left her hometown of Montreal and headed to L.A to try to make money in the adult entertainment industry. Within two months she contracted the most virulent form of HIV while performing sex in front of the camera. **INSIDE LARA ROXX** is about the events leading up to that moment and the years after it- it is about the adult movie industry and its impact on a young life. Lara's story created a media sensation at the time, but it's when the media hype dies that **INSIDE LARA ROXX** begins - in a psychiatric ward in Montreal. The film follows her through a tumultuous 5-year period as she struggles to build a new identity and find hope in the wake of her past.



### **OPEN SECRET**

A film by STEVE LICKTEIG | USA | 2011 | 70'

What if everything you know about yourself was a lie? And everyone in your life around you always knew the truth except you? Steve Lickteig was adopted at birth by the Lickteig farming family who had eight other (natural) children. Steve always wondered who his real parents were. The day before his high school graduation his two best friends had enough and told him shocking news: that he was not adopted from unknown parents - they were actually his natural grandparents and he was the illegitimate son of his oldest sister, Joanie. Now, two decades later, Steve's upcoming marriage spurs a desire for reconciliation—and information. So he takes a camera back to Kansas and starts asking questions, a quest leading him to unexpected places.



# **Human and other Interest**



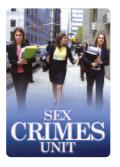


#### **POSITION AMONG THE STARS**

A film by LEONARD RETEL HELMRICH - Netherlands | 2010 | 109', 89' & 58'

For 12 years, filmmaker Leonard Retel Helmrich has followed an Indonesian family from the slums of Jakarta. Just as in his previous two multiple award-winning documentaries **EYE OF THE DAY** and **SHAPE OF THE MOON**, Retel continues to show us the underlying patterns of life in Indonesia through the Sjamsuddin family.

Winner: Grand Prize, Feature Length Competition & Best Dutch Documentary Award - IDFA Dec 2010. Special Jury Award Sundance 2011



#### **SEX CRIMES UNIT**

A film by LISA F. JACKSON - USA | 2011 | 90' & 58'

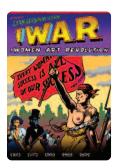
**SEX CRIMES UNIT** is an unprecedented look inside the NYC District Attorneys office at the first full time Unit in the country dedicated to the prosecution of rape and sexual assault: the film follows the process of investigation and prosecution every day; tracks through trial the case of a prostitute who dared cry rape, and follows the solving of a 'cold case', the inspiring story of one survivor's 16-year journey to justice. Never before have cameras been allowed into these offices and courtrooms to tell the stories of the dedicated men and women who seek justice for victims of a crime that is under-reported and misunderstood.



# **UNRAVELED: A Modern Day Tragedy of Ambition Gone Astray**

A film by MARC H. SIMON - USA | 2011 | 80' & 58'

Just days before Bernard Madoff captured headlines as the largest Ponzi schemer in U.S. history, Marc Dreier, a prominent Manhattan attorney, was arrested for orchestrating a massive fraud scheme that netted hundreds of millions of dollars from hedge funds. Brazen forgeries and impersonations branded the white-collar crime spree remarkable. UNRAVELED is set in the "purgatory" of house arrest — an upper East Side penthouse — where the Court has ordered Dreier confined until his sentencing day. The film weaves Dreier's struggle to prepare for the possibility of life imprisonment with first-person flashbacks, which reveal his audacious path of destruction. Destroyed by his own hubris, Dreier attempts to grasp his tragic unraveling. With unprecedented access, UNRAVELED exposes a portrait of a man who achieved the distinction he so desperately craved, but not for his keen intellect or ambition, but rather as a "mastermind of criminal deception."



## **!WOMEN ART REVOLUTION - A Secret History**

A film by LYNN HERSHMAN LEESON - USA | 2010 | 83'

The Feminist Art Movement was an activist movement, providing a model of cultural and political change. Art protests were waged against discrimination and racial exclusion as well as violence against women. Over time, the tenacity and courage of these pioneering women artists resulted in what many historians now feel is the most significant art movement of the 20th century.

Official Selection: Toronto International Film Festival 2010, Sundance 2011 and Berlin Panorama 2011