

MIPDOC/MIPTV

2013



AMERICAN WINTER: A COUNTRY IN SEARCH OF ITS PROMISE

A film by HARRY and JOE GANTZ in coproduction with HBO Documentary - USA | 2013 | 90'

American Winter follows the personal stories of eight families struggling in the aftermath of the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. Years after the recession began, today millions of families are struggling to meet their basic needs, and many formerly middle class families are finding themselves needing assistance for the first time in their lives. Meanwhile, the social safety net that was created to help people in difficult times has been weakened by political division and massive budget cuts, creating a perfect storm of greater need and fewer resources to help vulnerable families.



BOREDOM

A film by ALBERT NERENBERG - Canada | 2013 | 52'

What is boredom and where does it come from? Can one really be "bored to death'? How can you fight it? These are only a few of the essential questions posed by journalist and documentary maker Albert Nerenberg, whose earlier films have explored the themes of stupidity and laughter. Despite its satirical tone and entertaining use of reenactment, **BOREDOM** offers some serious food for thought on the evolution of boredom, education and the younger generation and our relationship with new technologies.



COAST MODERN

A film by MIKE BERNARD AND GAVIN FROOME - Canada 2013 | 55'

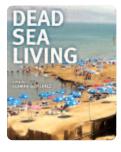
Travelling along the Pacific North West coastline from LA to Vancouver, the film showcases the pioneers of West Coast Modernist Architecture, and the homes that have become their legacies. Stepping inside the most inspired dwellings on the west coast, we feel how the light and space of a classic Modernist home can work in collaboration with the natural environment, taking us back to the basics of true living — a sense of place, light, and a deep connection to the earth.



COUNTERFEIT CULTURE

A film by GEOFF D'EON - Canada | 2013 |52'

Welcome to the dangerous and sometimes deadly world of fake, fraudulent, and faux products. For many of us, the imitation industry is all about fake designer handbags, watches, and shoes Today it has mushroomed into a global phenomenon, fuelled by our own desire (or need) to buy things cheaper and cheaper. Counterfeit goods today include pharmaceuticals, food, toys, electronic goods, car parts, microchips and even spare parts for airplanes. The traffic in counterfeit goods is now estimated at a staggering \$700 billion representing nearly 10% of all global trade.



DEAD SEA LIVING

A film by GERMAN GUTIERREZ in coproduction with ARTE FRANCE - Canada | 2013 | 58'

Who has not heard of the famous Dead Sea, the world's saltiest water, its unique geographical form and historical sites: Jesus' baptism, Masada. Tourists bathe in its waters for its medicinal qualities. But with only the Jordan River supplying water, today it is shrinking as the water input has been cut off for agriculture. As a result, the Dead Sea is dying. Solutions are proposed such as the Red Sea-Dead Sea Canal, proposed by the governments of the three countries (Israel, Palestine and Jordan) to more natural solutions which claim that the Dead Sea should be naturally restored by allowing the Jordan River to flow southward unimpeded.



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FIRE IN THE BLOOD

A film by DYLAN MOHAN GRAY - UK / India | 2012 | 57' & 85'

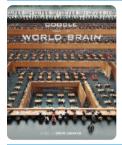
A shocking tale of 'monopoly, medicine and mass murder', FIRE tells the story of how Western pharmaceutical companies and governments blocked access to low-cost AIDS drugs for the countries of the global south in the years after 1996 — causing ten million or more unnecessary deaths — and the improbable group of people who decided to fight back. Shot on four continents and with among others, Bill Clinton, Desmond Tutu and Joseph Stiglitz, **FIRE IN THE BLOOD** is the never-before-told story of the unlikely alliance which came together to stop 'the crime of the century' and save millions of lives in the process.



THE GHOSTS IN OUR MACHINE

A film by LIZ MARSHALL - Canada | 2013 | 58'& 93'

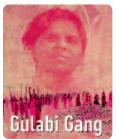
With the exception of our companion animals and a few species within our urban environments, we experience animals as the food, clothing, animal tested goods and entertainment we make of them. Through the heart and photographic lens of protagonist Jo-Anne McArthur the film shines a light on the complex social issue of animal rights within the context of our voracious consumer driven world. Are animals property to be owned and used, or are animals sentient beings deserving of rights?



GOOGLE AND THE WORLD BRAIN

A film by BEN LEWIS - UK / Spain | 2013 | 88'

Accumulating all human knowledge in one repository has been a dream since ancient times. Only recently, however, has that dream become a reality. Quietly and behind closed doors, Google has been executing a project to scan and digitize every printed word on the planet. However a diverse coalition of people mobilizes to stop the fulfillment of this ambitious dream as it uncovers a high-stakes multinational heist.



GULABI GANG

A film by NISHTHA JAIN - Norway / India | 2013 | 58'

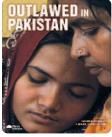
Against the backdrop of the current situation in India, the GULABI GANG tells a new and very current story of the pink sari-clad women, each with a large wooden stick, who travel long distances to wrest justice for women and Dalits (the "untouchables"), undeterred by sneering policemen and condescending bureaucrats. Sampat Pal, their leader is a rough-and-tough woman with a commanding personality, today investigating a young woman's suspicious death, tomorrow protesting against a corrupt official, not shying away of giving such a corrupt official a good beating. They face resistance, apathy and corruption, even ridicule. GULABI GANG uncovers a complex and disturbing story, yet with hope.



NO LAUGHING MATTER: POLITICAL CARTOONS UNDER THREAT

A film by OLIVIER MALVOISIN - Belgium | 2013 | 55'

"Search a barometer for freedom of expression and understand any taboos in a particular country, then take a look at its political cartoons" Throughout history the fight and defence of freedom of expression is a fight that continuously needs to be fought. **NO LAUGHING MATTER** revisits a number of incidents around cartoons that have made world headlines in recent years and talks to prominent cartoonists in Israel, in Palestine, in Germany, in Tunisia, in France, in Belgium and in the United States and asks the following question: where does freedom of expression stand today?



OUTLAWED IN PAKISTAN

A film by HABIBA NOSHEEN and HILKE SCHELLMANN - USA | 2013 | 39'

The gripping story of Kainat Soomro as she takes her rape case to Pakistan's deeply flawed court system in hopes of getting justice. The 13-year-old Kainat accuses four men of gang rape and shortly after is ordered to be killed by her village elders. Spanning over five years, the story is told through the perspective of Kainat and the four men accused of her rape. The film shows the extraordinary strength that women like Kainat possess, as they resist societal norms and turn their backs on tribal traditions to demand justice from a legal system that continues to fail them.





50th ANNIVERSARY of the JOHN F. KENNEDY ASSASSINATION on NOVEMBER 22, 1963

A PRESIDENT TO REMEMBER: IN THE COMPANY OF JOHN F. KENNEDY

A film by ROBERT DREW / Narrated by ALEC BALDWIN - USA | 85'

When JOHN F. KENNEDY launched his bid for the presidency, Robert Drew was there catching history on camera (for the first time) as it happened. Kennedy continued to allow Drew unprecedented access to him, his wife Jackie, and children Caroline and John John after he became President, as well as to key members of his administration during The Bay of Pigs, the rise of the Berlin Wall, and the desegregation showdown with Governor George Wallace. A PRESIDENT TO REMEMBER includes footage from all of Drew's Kennedy documentaries and offers a unique and captivating inside view of this legendary President, and provides a "view of a US President widely respected by his fellow countrymen and celebrated across the world."

Also available: Bob Drew's original classic KENNEDY documentaries

PRIMARY (1960, 52') - JFK and Jacqueline campaign in Wisconsin

CRISIS (1963, 52') - Inside JFK's White House during a crisis over integration in the South

FACES OF NOVEMBER (1964, 20') - the assassination of President John F. Kennedy as seen through the faces of his compatriots and mourners

FALL 2012 RELEASES

AN AFFAIR OF THE HEART: RICK SPRINGFIELD (USA, 2012, 93')

Premiered IDFA 2012

Pop idols rise and fall. However there is one such idol who has never slowed down—Rick Springfield. His music has globally bonded multi-generations of fans for the last 30 years. This surprising phenomenon is seen through the eyes of his diehard fans (..and Rick Springfield himself!) demonstrating that this connection goes way deeper than the music....

THE BABY (Netherlands, 2012, 85')

Premiered IDFA 2012

In 1942 a baby was given to a foster home by her German Jewish parents just before they were taken away. After war, Anneke, now five, is sent to family in USA and grows up being told never ask questions about her past. 65 years later stories and photos emerge. Anneke finds a picture of herself sitting on the lap of a girl that clearly looks like Anne Frank. Slowly the puzzle of her earliest years and her Jewish background come together but things are not what they seemed...

BIRDERS, THE CENTRAL PARK EFFECT (USA, 2012, 58')

New York's Central Park acts as a beacon to hundreds of magnificent species of Central and South American birds as they migrate as the seasons cycle through. BIRDERS is a colorful documentary about these birds and the birders in New York's Central Park, and an unexpected delight for everyone.

BORDERLINE (Canada, 2012, 54')

A scenic, humorous and above all thought-provoking trek across the Canada-USA border from the Atlantic to the Pacific on both sides of the international line revealing how its almost scary obsession with security has changed the United States (and its borders!) since 9/11 and where this could lead us...

THE CARBON RUSH (Canada, 2012, 52' & 84')

Requests to offset carbon pollution- who knows what this means? An up-close look at the insidious tango between government and big polluters and whether or not carbon offsets are distracting us from what's really required to tackle the climate crisis and greenhouse gases.

FIGHT LIKE SOLDIERS, DIE LIKE CHILDREN (Canada, 2012, 58' & 82')

Premiered IDFA 2012

When you've been to hell and back, how do you shake the memories? This question has haunted Canadian General Roméo Dallaire since 1994, when he commanded the UN force during the Rwandan genocide, watching helplessly as the slaughter went on. Today, Dallaire has found a reason to live, focusing of the rest of my life to eradicate the use of children as instruments of war.

FOUAD'S DREAM (Canada, 2012, 58')

Fouad Sahyoun was born to an Arab-Christian family in Haifa in 1943. His family was forced to leave in 1948, when he was four years old. Fouad has 'made it' in his adopted country: Canada. But Fouad wants to go back to Haifa and his dream to establish business and cultural links is fraught with difficulties - familial as well as political. But he believes that entrepreneurship can succeed where diplomacy and war have failed.

HAVA NAGILA: THE Untold STORY of the World's Most Popular Song (USA, 2012, 58' & 73')

The fun and interesting story of the song that has transcended its origins and become a worldwide hit, using the song as a springboard to explore Jewish history and identity and to spotlight the cross-cultural connections that can only be achieved through music. With Harry Belafonte, Leonard Nimoy, Glen Campbell, Connie Francis, Regina Spektor and more...



FALL 2012 RELEASES

ICEBOUND: THE STORY OF THE 1925 ALASKA SERUM RUN (USA, 2012, 95')

Premiered IDFA 2012

On January 28, 1925, the world learned that disaster illness hit Nome, Alaska, isolated for seven months by a frozen ocean. With aviation still in its infancy, and one of the harshest winters on record, only ancient means – dogsled – could save the town. In minus 60 degrees, more than twenty men, and at least 150 dogs, (among them the famous Balto) set out to relay the antitoxin for 674 miles to save the town. An ageless adventure story that has captured the imagination of children and adults alike for almost a century: The Greatest Dog Story Ever Told.

THE MAN BEHIND THE THRONE (Sweden, 2012, 58')

Millions of people know his work, but do we know the man behind many of the groundbreaking dance performances of Michael Jackson and Madonna? His name is Vincent Paterson. He now looks back at his career with humor, insight and great stories. A riveting and entertaining portrait of a wonderfully charming man who changed modern dance single-handedly. With great dance footage of Michael Jackson and Madonna.

MISS NIKKI AND THE TIGER GIRLS (Australia, 2012, 75')

Premiered IDFA 2012

Strong and upbeat story that mirrors the remarkable change taking place in Myanmar (Burma) when five young women break free of tradition by forming a Girl Band, an uplifting look at Girl Power against all the odds. Using their own songs their search for freedom of expression mirrors the tentative steps their country is taking to do the same thing.

RENT A FAMILY (Denmark, 2012, 80')

Ryuichi runs a small Japanese company operating it from his mobile phone and his laptop. He rents out people: family members, friends, colleagues or others, to help other people hide their secrets and make their life look better or just....perfectly normal. His own family has no knowledge of this and he therefore lives a double life himself. Will Ryuchisucceed in maintaining his secret or will he realize that helping others, requires the courage to help himself and expose his secret double life to his family?

SERVING THE ROYALS (Canada, 2012, 50')

They iron the Queen's bed sheets, polish Philip's riding boots, squeeze Charles's toothpaste and keep an eye on Harry when he strays into a strip club. They are the 700 men and women of the royal household: servants, consultants, advisers and protectors of the House of Windsor. Round the clock they toil, often thanklessly, to keep the monarchy humming... but they see and hear almost everything. Here are some of their stories...

SEXY BABY: About Sexiness and the Cyber Age (USA, 2012, 58' & 83')

Premiered IDFA 2012

Welcome to Generation XXX, where SEX is everywhere from tween marketing to reality TV. A revealing trio of stories gives the full picture of a society where vaginal plastic surgery passes for empowerment and online porn substitutes for sex education. With easy access to anything andeverything online, technology is altering female sexual identity and self-esteem, especially in young girls. **SEXY BABY** is about what it's like to be a girl in the world today.

SHOW ME THE MAGIC: The Adventures of Don McAlpine (Australia, 2012, 52' & 75')

An irresistible and joyful journey into the life and work of legendary Australian cinematographer Don McAlpine, filmed during the shoot of X-Men Origins: Wolverine (Hugh Jackman). His career includes seminal films such as Patriot Games, Predator, Peter Pan and Mrs Doubtfire. With directors Bruce Beresford and Gillian Armstrong, we explore the heritage of Don's remarkable Australian films. Baz Luhrmann takes us behind the scenes of Romeo + Juliet and Moulin Rouge! Engaging and delightful for anyone who has ever been touched by the magic of movies.

THE SUCCESSOR OF KAKIEMON (Netherlands, 2012, 49')

Premiered IDFA 2012

A Japanese family that has transformed everyday pottery into the world famous, mythical Kakiemon porcelain and preserves its traditions, now passes on the leadership from father to son. Is he up to the task that lies ahead? What's at stake if this successor does not succeed? Keeping the tradition alive is more than just reproducing craft. It is a statement against modernity and mass production.

WRONG TIME WRONG PLACE (Netherlands, 2012, 80')

Premiered IDFA 2012

In Norway, on 22 July 2011, the senseless, brutal act of one man took the lives of 77 people. WRONG TIME WRONG PLACE tells the story of 5 individuals who were present then and shows the role of coincidence in this tragedy. Small, trivial happenings mark the thin line between life and death. Two minutes earlier or later can be of decisive importance. A compelling film about the bargain with fate.