

MIPDOC/MIPTV New Releases



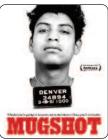


THE AGE OF LOVE

A film by STEVEN LORING - USA | 2014 | 74'



Widowed and alone in his small apartment in Rochester, NY, Matt, 79, sighs, "I just need somebody to be romantic with!" Addie, 71, out late at a dance club, doesn't mince words, "I'm not looking for some baggy-assed man to buy me a fish fry." And long-divorced at 74, insists she'll still find her "Fred and Ginger romance." What brings these seniors together is an intriguing announcement: a first-of-its-kind Speed Dating event exclusively for 70- to 90-year-olds. This heartwarming and surprising film follows these intrepid, pre-war speed daters over one summer and brings to light the unexpected hopes and emotions of older adults who must now take stock of aging bodies and life-worn hearts.



AMERICAN MUGSHOT

A film by DENNIS MOHR - Canada | 2014 | 52'



Originally a law enforcement tool, the "mugshot" has deviated from its fundamental purpose as a source of criminal identification. It has been sensationalized through the world of the celebrity, exploited by the leniency of freedom of information, but has also captivated the attention of the art world. **AMERICAN MUGSHOT** explores the personal stories of those whose lives have been affected by this iconic photograph. As one retired police officer points out: "Mugshots are the most important police innovation next to the nightstick, flashlight and the gun"



BORN TO FLY

A film by CATHERINE GUND - USA | 2014 | 82'



Elizabeth Streb is not just a choreographer; she is an action architect, constantly pushing herself to jump a little higher and fall a little harder. Here she reflects on her evolution and influences and her theory of movement – to walk on walls; dive through glass; move so fast you disappear and...fly. When does movement become art? How does this practice and how do race, gender, sexuality show on their bodies? With access to decades of spectacular STREB footage, as well as recent images of Streb working with her dance company. BORN TO FLY gives a stimulating and exciting texture to a tale that speaks to Streb's remarkable trajectory and the necessity of art.



BEGINNING WITH THE END

A film by DAVID MARSHALL - USA | 2014 | 64'



Emma, 15 years old: "I held a woman's hand who knew as little about me as I knew about her. Her name was Ernie. She didn't mind when I held her hand". Emma and Ernie ate lemon pie together. Ernie taught Emma about life. And Emma helped Ernie to die. In 2002, a high school teacher in Rochester, NY, invited nine high school seniors to attend his new class. The name of the class: Hospice. A decade later, the program continues with student volunteers learning about and providing comfort care for the dying and their families. The film follows the real-life stories of four student volunteers through their senior year. In the guest to understand "the big sleep", they find a whole new kind of awakening.

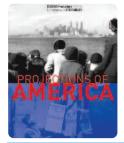


LOVE AND ENGINEERING

A film by TONISLAV HRISTOV - Finland | 2014 | 80' & 52'



Our modern life is largely designed by engineers. They like to invent and structure things and they are more at ease with figures and natural science than in relations with opposite sex. Atanas, a Bulgarian computer engineer claims to have hacked love, but can he help lonely (and shy...) engineers find real love and real happiness? As he is trying to develop a scientific formula for the finding of a perfect wife, he uses other engineers as his guinea pigs; lectures them his ideas and sends them out to test them in the real world. He guides with them with wireless during their set up meetings with potential candidates: beautiful young women. Are the rules of attraction, sex and love scientific and if they are, do we really want to know them?



PROJECTIONS OF AMERICA

A film by PETER MILLER - Germany | 2014 | 58'



In the 1940's Academy Award-winning screenwriter Robert Riskin headed up an American secret film unit that sought to redefine America in the eyes of the world amidst World War II. They produced films that showed America's strength not through images of tanks, but instead with portraits of real life, of common families, farmers and window washers. Riskin's unit created 26 brilliant, moving portraits of America that were unlike any films ever made before. **PROJECTIONS OF AMERICA** tells the dramatic story of Riskin and his team, and the risks they took to project a profoundly democratic vision of the nation that would soon emerge as the most powerful on earth.



New Releases



SLEEPLESS IN NEW YORK

A film by CHRISTIAN FREI - Switzerland | 2014 | 92'

Often laughed off as nothing more than an affliction of adolescence, lovesickness becomes the topic of a sensitive and compelling documentary film. Christian Frei dives into the frenzied nights of the newly rejected. Nights full of pain and tears, yet also wakefulness and creativity. Anthropologist Helen Fisher researches the astounding and profound processes that are unfolding in the brain of the lovesick. Has nature overdone it? The film explores the difficult path out of self-destructive obsessive behavior, toward a new self. And it wonders about the unwavering desire – despite it all – for love.



THE STARFISH THROWERS

A film by JESSE ROESLER - USA | 2014 | 82'



Poignant, touching and stimulating, **THE STARFISH THROWERS** explores how three of the world's most fiercely compassionate individuals fight hunger and struggle to restore hope to the hopeless in unexpected and sometimes dangerous ways. Half a world apart, a five-star chef in India, a retired school teacher in the US Midwest and a sixth-grade master gardener in South Carolina fight for a seemingly lost cause—hunger-until they discover their impact may reach further than their actions. In each of their unique journeys, these unforgettable individuals meet unexpected challenges and must find a way to persevere, despite being constantly reminded that hunger is far too big for one person to solve. But is it?



TWIN SISTERS

A film by MONA FRIIS BERTHEUSSEN - Norway | 2013 | 58'



In 2003, two babies were found in a cardboard box in a Chinese village and adopted to two different corners of the world. One of them is a little village in Norway, surrounded by high mountains and deep fjords. The other one is a big city in the USA. The adoptive parents had no idea that there was a twin sister, since their sisterhood was meant to be kept a secret. However, destiny had other plans... **TWIN SISTERS** tells the remarkable story of the twin sisters through a parallel journey, until they meet again in Norway when they are 8 years old. **TWIN SISTERS** is a powerful human story about sibling love, human dilemma and the game of fate.



TWO RAGING GRANNIES

A film by HAVARD BUSTNESS - Norway | 2014 | 77' & 52'



A combination of curiosity and frustration with the status quo drives Shirley and Hinda, two gutsy, nearly 90-year-old American women, to seek answers to the burning question on everyone's mind: *How do we get out of this economic mess?* In this touching and thought-provoking documentary they challenge the idea that we must continue to shop, consume, amass, and keep the economy growing. Armed with courage, humor, a long friendship and a zest for life, Shirley and Hinda take to cities and towns across the US to engage everyone from the recently homeless to economy students, to growth economists and Wall Street tycoons, questioning the sustainability of continued economic growth, and demonstrating that it is never — ever — too late to get out and make a difference.



VULVA 3.0 - Between Taboo and Fine-TuningA film by ULRIKE ZIMMERMANN and CLAUDIA RICHARZ - Germany | 2014 | 52'

MIPDOC

We live in hypersexualised times. The world around us constantly puts naked women and their genitalia on display. But many women are still deeply prudish when it comes to the relationship with their own body. In public we see airbrushed anatomies, which conforms to the porn industry's ideal image of the smooth, perfectly shaped vulva that has little to do with the actual shape of most female genitalia. The insecurity of many women is a goldmine for cosmetic surgery promising the perfect vagina. **VULVA 3.0** looks at sex education and censorship, the airbrushing of 'misshapen' labia in pornographic images, the cosmetic genital surgery and the work of activists against female genital mutilation — and in doing so celebrate the diversity of the female body.



WHAT'S LEFT? - Adventures in Italian Politics A film by LUCA RAGAZZI and GUSTAV HOFER - Italy | 2014 | 74'



What happens when a country loses its political identity? Is the concept of "left" and "right" a thing of the past? Frustrated in their hope for a shift to a more equal and progressive Italy, Luca and Gustav decide to find out why Italy is such a persistently right-wing country — and what it still means to be on the Left today. On their quest to look back to what Italy used to be, they also look their own family history. Luca grew up in a communist family when Italy had the strongest communist party in Europe, while Gustav is from the conservative area of South Tyrol, far away from any leftish ideals, until the Green Party was born. In their own personal lighthearted style, the makers of Italy Love It Or Leave It try to make sense of Italian politics and society to find out, "What is Left?" in the 21st century.



Fall 2013 releases

AMERICAN COMMUNE (USA, 2013, 90')

In 1970, 1,500 hippies and their guru Stephen Gaskin founded a commune in rural Tennessee. Members gave up their savings, grew their own food, delivered their babies at home and built a self-sufficient society. Growing up in this alternative community, filmmakers and sisters Rena and Nadine today return for the first time since leaving in 1985, ready to face the past after years of hiding their upbringing, they chart the rise and fall of America's largest utopian socialist experiment.

BASTARDS (UK, 2013, 52 & 82')

In Morocco, as in all Muslim countries, sex outside marriage is illegal. Single mothers are despised, but what is the fate of their children? They are outcasts, condemned to a life of discrimination. **BASTARDS** is the first film to tell this story from a mother's point of view. We follow Rabha El Haimer through the courts to legalize her forced marriage, to register her daughter and to make the father accept his child.

BETTIE PAGE REVEALS ALL! (USA, 2013, 57' & 101')

An intimate look at the rise, fall, and rise again of one of the world's most recognized and controversial sex symbols. With her razor sharp wit and Tennessee twang, Page narrates through a rare audio interview revealing her secret past, from her enduring popularity to her post-feminist role model status and shows how Bettie's influence on fashion and pop culture is stronger than ever.

BIG MEN (USA, 2013, 100')

Six years in the making, **BIG MEN** is about the struggle for money, acclaim and oil in Africa. It's an epic adventure of high-stakes capitalism, with shockingly intimate access to company executives, government officials and gun-toting militants. The film tracks two stories: Kosmos Energy, a Dallas-based oil company, discovers Ghana's first oil. Can they develop the field and maximize profits as everyone involved tries to gain as much as possible? Meanwhile, chaos unfolds in Nigeria as militants destroy pipelines, demanding more money for their people and causing world crude prices to soar. Who gets what in this quest for oil and cash and what will they sacrifice for their reward?

THE CONDEMNED (UK/Russia, 2013, 80')

With unprecedented access, **THE CONDEMNED** reveals the hidden world of one of Russia's most impenetrable and remote prisons: Penal Colony 56, a maximum security prison exclusively for murderers. In a forest as big as Germany, this is the end of the line for some of Russia's most dangerous criminals. In brutally frank and uncensored interviews the inmates speak of their crimes, life and death, redemption and remorselessness, freedom and families, insanity and hope.

DOLLARS FOR A SAINT (Greece, 2013, 55')

Messolonghi is a small coastal town in western Greece. Two diverse social groups live there, Greeks and Gypsies. In the past Gypsy drummers accompanied the Greek soldiers in their fight against the Turks. Today they still live side by side in harmony with a strong mutual respect. What binds the locals and the Gypsies together today is, once a year, the feast of Saint Simeon. The entire population engages in a five-day exhausting festival of dance, parades, food and drink with the Gypsies providing the music. A unique story of extraordinary harmony, while in many parts of Europe today the "Gypsy issue" is back on the front pages again.

FAREWELL TO HOLLYWOOD (USA, 2013, 123')

The life's wish of a terminally ill 17-year-old girl, Regina Diane Nicholson, to make a movie leads to a deep, loving, and controversial relationship with 55-year-old filmmaker, Henry Corra. With mortality's clock relentlessly ticking, Reggie risks everything to fight for the life, art and love she chooses. Simultaneously supported by their community of filmmakers, clergy and health care professionals and imperiled by those who would seemingly go to any length to end their misunderstood relationship, Reggie and Henry are together to the last, and beyond.

A GIRL AND A GUN (USA, 2013, 76')

A GIRL AND A GUN shows the female perspective on an object whose history is deeply bound to men and masculinity. Breaking through Hollywood caricatures, A GIRL AND A GUN reveals America's diverse and far-ranging female gun community and how this community is portrayed by the media and targeted by the gun industry; and shows, through personal stories, how guns change women's lives.

THE GHOSTS IN OUR MACHINE (Canada, 2013, 52' & 91')

A compelling look at the lives of animals living within and rescued from the machine of our modern world, through the lens of acclaimed animal photographer Jo-Anne McArthur. The film follows her over the course of a year as she photographs several animal stories in Canada, the U.S. and in Europe. Each story and photograph is a window into global animal industries: Research; Food; Fashion and Entertainment. Are animals sentient beings deserving of rights?

HARVEST OF EMPIRE (USA, 2013, 74')

HARVEST OF EMPIRE examines the direct connection between the long history of U.S. intervention in Latin America and the immigration crisis the USA faces today, taking an unflinching look at the role that U.S. economic and military interests have played for almost a century and by this triggering an unprecedented wave of migration that is now transforming the nation's cultural and economic landscape.

ICEBOUND: The Story of the 1925 Alaska Serum Run (USA, 2012: NEW 60' BBC version, narrated by Sir Patrick Stewart)

MIPDOC.

On January 28, 1925, newspapers and radio stations broke a terrifying story: Diphtheria had broken out in Nome, Alaska, separated from the rest of the world 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 across 674 miles of Alaskan wilderness to save the town. **ICEBOUND** is an ageless adventure that has captured the imagination of children and adults throughout the world for almost a century: The Greatest Dog Story Ever Told.



Fall 2013 releases

I LOVE VENICE (Netherlands, 2013, 55' & 71')

Venice attracts 30 million tourists each year and this number is even expected to rise as massive tourism is predicted in the next years from China and India. Everybody wants to see this city of dreams, a fairytale place built on water. Is Venice the first city turning into a theme park? Meanwhile inhabitants are fleeing the town. Venice is too expensive to live in, stores predominantly cater to tourists, property is sold to rich foreigners and rents continue to skyrocket. Demographers predict that by 2030 there will not be a single full-time Venetian resident left. I LOVE VENICE tells the story of the people still living in the most beautiful city in the world and of its citizens taking protest to the streets to save the city as a real community. What is it like to live in a city that is not yours anymore?

KISMET (Greece/Cyprus, 2013, 55')

Turkish soap operas are conquering the hearts of millions of viewers in the Middle East, North Africa, the Balkans and Asia, but they are also helping to revolutionize gender relationships across the region. With unique access to the industry's creative talent and through intimate portraits of viewers across the region, **KISMET** discovers how Turkish soaps are changing women's lives.

THE LIFE AND CRIMES OF DORIS PAYNE (USA, 2012, 74')

Find out how a poor, single, African-American mother from segregated 1930s America winds up as one of the world's most notorious and successful jewel thieves. Today with the 83 year old (again) Doris on trial for the theft of a diamond ring, we uncover the secrets of her trade and what drove her to a life of crime. It exposes a rebel who defies society's prejudices and creates her own version of the American Dream, while she steals your heart.

THE MANOR (Canada, 2013, 52' & 78')

Shawney calls himself a filmmaker, but he's been a strip-club manager for longer. When he was six his father bought "THE MANOR", a small-town strip club. Thirty years later, the family's lifestyle has got the better of them. While his 400-pound father prepares for stomach-reduction surgery, his 85-pound mother has her own complicated relationship with food. Shawney's role as struggling filmmaker and outcast son provides a rare glimpse into a family facing the consequences of their livelihood and dependence. Told with humor and frankness, THE MANOR is an intimate portrait of people struggling to call themselves a family.

MAGIC CAMP (USA, 2013, 85')

Every summer, magic-obsessed kids coping with the pressures of growing up gather at Tannen's MAGIC CAMP, the world's oldest and most prestigious training ground for young magicians. MAGIC CAMP follows several campers united by their aspirations to make it big. As the all-important final competition approaches, we share in their personal struggles and magical breakthroughs, an inspirational journey that will leave you believing that nothing is impossible.

ONE TRACK HEART (USA, 2013, 72')

In 1970, Jeffrey Kagel walked away from the American dream of rock 'n' roll stardom, turning down the chance to record as lead singer for the band soon-to-be the Blue Oyster Cult. Instead, he sold all his possessions and moved from the suburbs of Long Island to the foothills of the Himalayas in search of happiness and a little-known saint named Neem Karoli Baba. **ONE TRACK HEART: THE STORY OF KRISHNA DAS** follows his journey to India and back, witnessing his struggles with depression and drug abuse, to his eventual emergence as Krishna Das, today a world-renowned spiritual teacher and Grammy nominated chant master.

THE PUNK SINGER (USA, 2013, 80')

Kathleen Hanna, lead singer of the punk band Bikini Kill and dance-punk trio Le Tigre, rose to national attention as the reluctant but never shy voice of the riot grrrl movement. She became one of the most famously outspoken feminist icons, a cultural lightning rod. Her critics wished she would just shut-up, and her fans hoped she never would. So in 2005, when Hanna stopped shouting, many wondered why. Through 20 years of archival footage and intimate interviews with Hanna, **THE PUNK SINGER** takes viewers on a fascinating tour of contemporary music and offers a never-before-seen view into the life of this fearless leader.

THIS AIN'T NO MOUSE MUSIC (USA, 2013, 91')

Since 1960, Strachwitz has been recording the authentic American music, discovered from the backwoods of the nation. His label Arhoolie Records offers an unparalleled catalogue of blues, Cajun, wild Hillbilly country, Tex-Mex and New Orleans R&B. With tape-recorder in hand, Strachwitz traveled to plantations and prisons, roadhouses and whorehouses, churches and bayou juke joints. He returned with recordings that would revolutionize the sound of popular music.

VOICES OF EL ALTO (Finland, 2013, 49')

Bolivia, El Alto. In a city over 4000 meters above sea level, a story tent is set up in a marketplace to collect stories from random by-passers without any thematic limitations imposed by the film makers. Thus something unexpected happened: the tent became an intimate confession room and a magic stage where stories, songs and poems of love and anger became a Story within a story, of a rebellious city, **VOICES OF EL ALTO**. The emphasis of this film is not in how the director perceives the storytellers – it's about how people perceive themselves.

WHEN I WALK (USA, 2013, 84')

It all started on a family vacation. In 2006, the 25-year-old, vital, handsome, talented Jason DaSilva was on a beach with his family when, suddenly, he fell down and couldn't get back up. Doctors told him he had multiple sclerosis, and it could lead to loss of vision and muscle control, as well as a myriad of other problems. Jason decided to exercise more, but the problem just got worse. So he turned to his mom. She reminded him that he was a fortunate, privileged North American kid who had the opportunity to pursue the things he loved most - art and filmmaking. So Jason picked up the camera, turned it on himself, and began filming the slow, difficult decline of his body and the miracles he encountered along the way.