

2007 Awards

Say I Do - Directed by Ron Vignone - Best Narrative Feature

The Silence After - Directed by Kelly DeSarla - Karen Black Award for Excellence in Filmmaking

The Retreat - Directed by Zachary Sluser - Best Short Film

Cinderellas of Santa Fe - Directed by Vanessa Vassar - Best Documentary Feature

The Chemistry of Dating - Directed by Matt Olson and Jenny Stolte - Best Student Film

Cruel But Necessary - Directed by Wendel Meldrum - Orson Welles Award

2007 Iowa Independent Film Festival Schedule

The first annual Iowa Independent Film Festival will kick off tomorrow at Music Man Square. During the 3 days of the festival, 43 films will be shown on 3 screens, and directors, producers, and actors will be available to speak to audiences at many of them. Prices for individual showings are \$3 for adults and \$2 for children and students.

Free Showings:

There will be free showings from noon until 5:30 on Friday in Reunion Hall, 12 noon until 4 on Saturday in Reunion Hall and the Exploratorium, and 2 until 4 on Sunday in the Exploratorium.

Special Events:

Friday, 2:00 - 4:00 at NIACC: Henry Jaglom and Tanna Frederick conduct an acting workshop. Contact Tim Slaven at 422-4274 for details.

Friday, 5:30 - 9:00 at Music Man Square: Party and world premiere of Hollywood Dreams at Music Man Square. \$25 at the door.

Saturday, 5:30-8:30 at the Hanford Inn: gala and awards dinner featuring music by Harriet Schock. Tickets no longer available.

Sunday, 3:00 - 5:00 at Stebens Children's Theatre: Henry Jaglom and Tanna Frederick conduct acting workshop. Call Stebens at 424-9802 for details.

Feature films:

Say I Do - Director Ron Vignone's romantic tale of a wedding party gone awry then aright in the desert. (90 minutes, Fri. 2-4, Sat. 4-6 with Q. and A. to follow)

The Danish Poet - 2007 Academy Award winner for best animated short (15 min., Fri. 2-4, Sat. 6-8, Sun. 2-4)

PADZ - Mason City native Rob Mathes' 8 min. spoof of MTV Cribs (Fri. 2-4, Sun. 12-2)

Hollywood Dreams - the world premiere of Henry Jaglom's 15th film. Margie Chizek (played by Tanna Frederick) confronts the real and surreal of making it in Hollywood. (100 min., Fri. 7:00 with Q. and A. to follow with director, Tanna Frederick, Karen Black, and David Proval. Second showing on Sunday, 12-2)

Demon City - an Iowa City student filmmaker's view of futuristic crime and punishment. (67 min., Fri. 12-2, Q. and A. to follow)

Crumbs From A Hard-boiled Egg - this short film takes an interesting look at the problems created by our drives to connect and procreate...and our tendency to look back on previous relationships with longing and regret. (27 min., Fri. 12-2 with Q. and A. to follow, Sat. 8-10)

The Coffee Clutch - an entirely different "flavor" of coffee is served up in this short film. (8 min., Fri. 12-2)

Saabing - hilarious rendition of The Artist As Neglected Young Man. (10min., Fri. 2-4, Sat.12-2)

La Sirena (The Siren) - a 27 minute take on the surreal by the Rodriguez brothers from Des Moines. (Fri. 2-4 with Q. and A. to follow) In Spanish with English subtitles.

The Girl Who Could Run 600 Miles Per Hour - Can she? Really? There's only one way to find out. (20 min., Fri. 2-4, Q. and A. to follow)

Help - Karen Black is famous as an actor, but this short film displays her gifts as a filmmaker. The whole 27 minutes is done in one continuous take. (Fri. 4-6 with Q. and A. to follow, Sun. 12-2).

The Silence After - A young mother is confronted with an anguishing possibility, and her decision has anguishing consequences. (12 min., Fri. 4-6, Q. and A. to follow).

Joe Willie's Friend - a poignant short film about the difficulties and redemptive powers of friendship. (17 min., Fri. 12-2, Sun. 4-6).

Cruel But Necessary - Wendel Meldrum's low-budget, high-concept film about a woman obsessed with videotaping the activities of her family. (93 min., Fri. 2-4, Sat. 2-4 with Q. and A. to follow)

The Coffee Shop - Bob's request for "just coffee" brings him unwanted attention from the Coffee Shop's staff, customers and three mysterious strangers. (6 min., Fri. 2-4, Sat. 2-4 with Q. and A. to follow)

The Track - If for some reason our sanity is compromised, how do we know? L.A. filmmaker Alicia Lara's 12 minute film explores one possibility. (Fri. 2-4).

The Chemistry of Dating - From University of Iowa students comes this novel approach to meeting the right partner. (83 min., Sat. 12-2 with Q. and A. to follow, Sun. 2-4.)

Yellow Fellas - a tongue-in-cheek look at the vicissitudes of a militant minority. Young Asians decide to fight back, but there's more flub to this story than fight. (75 min., Sat. 8-10, Sun. 6-8)

Mr. Consumption - a creative, animated short film from Temple University on the matter of over-indulgence. (4 min., Sat. 8-10, Sun. 2-4)

The Site - the problems and racial politics of a Chicago work site. This is the film's world premiere. (85 min.,

Sat. 12-2 with Q. and A. to follow, Sun. 4-6).

Notes From The Underground - A second festival film by Karen Black. (17 min., Sat. 2-4 with Q. and A. to follow)

The Passover - A woman is murdered, leaving her husband with memories that torment him. (12 min., Sat. 4-6 with Q. and A. to follow)

My Friend Death - we're not talking euthanasia, here, but death as somebody to help out with the rent. (12 min., Sat. 4-6 with Q. and A. to follow)

The Retreat - What happens when a Californian intent on freeing himself from material constraints takes a meditation break in an Iowa bean field? His car is stolen which sets him walking on the road to...well, for us, a lotta chuckles. (34 min., Sat. 6-8, 12-2 on Sun. with Q. and A. to follow)

Game Day - two hit men get into a profane, deadly argument over a football game. (21 min., Sat. 8-10).

Recently Deceased - Jim doesn't know how he died or why he's back from the dead, only that he needs to water the plants, take out the trash...and that parts of him are starting to drop off. (12 min., Sat. 4-6, Sun. 2-4).

Faron: The Prophecy - good guys, bad guys, and sword play: this film by high school student Drew Meinecke draws on a number of themes popular with young people today. (69 min., Sun. 2-4 with Q. and A. to follow)

Love Haze - this music video by high school student Ruth Lapointe depicts the frantic confusion of young love lost. (9 min., Sun. 2-4, Q. and A. to follow).

Déjà Vu - Is there love at first sight? A soulmate for every person? Henry Jaglom's romantic film explores these questions and more. (117 min., Sun. 4-6).

How To Go Out On A Date In Queens - Romance, the Russian Mafia and Jason Alexander (from Seinfeld) to lead a strong cast in this New York version of an old game. (90 min., Sun. 6-8).

Last Summer in The Hamptons - Henry Jaglom's film about a large theatrical family that comes together for one last weekend at their family estate. (108 min., Sun. 6-8).

Documentary films to be shown:

O.T.: Our Town Against all odds, the students at Dominguez High School in Compton, California put on the school's first theatrical production in over 20 years. O.T. documents the students' discovery of the power of art and the human spirit. (77 min., Fri, 12-2, Sat. 8-10)

Counter Clockwise - chronicles the art and life of Native-American artist Darren Vigil Gray. (31 min., Fri. 4-6, Sun. 12-2)

Plagues and Pleasures on the Salton Sea - a scathing, sometimes hilarious look at the people who cling to the shores of a disappearing California lake (71 min., Fri. 4-6, Sat. 6-8)

The New Battle - Seth McClellan's examination of the frustrations of Dr. Martin Luther - King when he

brings his movement to Chicago in 1967. (27 min., Fri. 12-2, Sun. 4-6)

One Six Right - An exhilarating documentary that features thrilling aerial photography and a sweeping original score. (73 min., Fri. 12-2).

Voices From The Storm - This film was made by Wartburg College students who journeyed to New Orleans to record the plight of the survivors of Hurricane Katrina. (55 min., Fri. 4-6, Sat. 8-10)

American Waitress - focuses on the lives of four waitresses in Santa Fe, New Mexico. (66 min., Sat. 8-10, Sun. 4-6)

Tracing A Journey - This film from Loras College chronicles the life of Samuel Mazzuchelli who left Italy for the New World in 1828 and became the most celebrated priest of the Upper Midwest territory. (Fri. 4-6, 42 min.)

Villisca: Living With A Mystery - examines the circumstances and repercussions of the infamous axe murders of 1912. (116 min., Sat. 6-8, Sun. 2-4 followed by Q. and A.

Cinderellas of Santa Fe - every artist's dilemma: how to make a living so you can make art. (77 min., Sat. 2-4 with Q. and A. to follow).

You Remind Me of Me - Young women who surf, skate, and snowboard just as hard as the boys. (30 min., Sat. 2-4)

My Sister Maria - although she appeared in over 70 films with the biggest stars of her time, few remember the talented Maria Schell. This documentary of her career and life remind us of the fleeting quality of fame. (91 min., Sun 12-2).