

BIG-EDDY

FILM FESTIVAL

NARROWSBURG - NEW YORK

'LOCATION: SULLIVAN'
NEW LOCAL SHORT FILMS
PREMIERING AT THE BIG EDDY FILM FESTIVAL

September 18 in Narrowsburg, NY

The **Fifth Annual Big Eddy Film Festival**, which takes place September 16 to 18, 2016 at the Tusten Theatre in Narrowsburg, NY, will showcase premiere screenings of several new short films shot on location in Sullivan County. The shorts program, "Location: Sullivan" will screen on Sunday, September 18 at 11 am. Many filmmakers will be in attendance for talkbacks following their films.

"Location: Sullivan" Shorts Program Selections:

The Renovation (World Premiere)

Director: Brian O'Neill

This dramatic short film, shot primarily in Narrowsburg, NY in the fall of 2015, follows a restaurant owner in a small town as she faces foreclosure, and a young actor returning to his home when tragedy strikes his family. It's a story about the changing face of rural America, and the value of embracing new beginnings. The film stars Tracy Sallows, Tony Knotts, Andrea Lynn Green, Skipp Sudduth, and Forbes March, and features cameos by several local residents. The film was shot on location at the Narrowsburg Inn, the grounds of the Narrowsburg Union, in the Luxton Lake community of Narrowsburg, and in Kenoza Lake, NY.

THE RENOVATION was inspired by a series of articles that appeared in *The New York Times* during the height of the 2008 recession highlighting the plight of a particular town in the American Midwest, and the day-to-day struggles of its townspeople trying to make ends meet while facing difficult personal and economic decisions.

Writer/director Brian O'Neill is an actor on television and film, and has appeared in the films BURN AFTER READING, BROOKLYN RULES, LAWS OF

ATTRACTION, and THE BOURNE LEGACY. O'Neill currently serves on the faculty as an acting instructor at The New York Film Academy in New York City.

Barnburner (World Premiere)

Director: Chloe Aktas

This powerful drama focuses on the struggles of Andy, a young woman in a small Catskills town aspiring to be a boxer against all odds. Living in an abusive home with her younger brother, Andy vows to follow her dreams while maintaining the responsibilities of an older sister. The film stars Kenoza Lake native Catherine Peters, and was shot on location in the Jeffersonville, NY area.

Dear Director (US Premiere)

Director: Marcus Lindeen

In 1980, jazz pianist Kazzrie Jaxen watched Ingmar Bergman's FROM THE LIFE OF THE MARIONETTES. Afterward, she wrote him a 16-page letter explaining how the film changed her life. It started a dramatic inner journey that made her understand that she was not alone in her own body: hidden inside a small lump of fat under her skin rests the remains of her unborn twin.

DEAR DIRECTOR is a hybrid documentary based on a real fan letter written to Bergman that Swedish director Marcus Lindeen found while doing research on unfinished Bergman scripts for a play. Jaxen, who wrote the letter 35 years ago, stars as herself in the film. The film also features Thomas Bosket, James Sullivan, Isabel Braverman, and Dana Duke. It was filmed in the Callicoon, NY area in 2015. DEAR DIRECTOR had its world premiere at the Locarno Film Festival in 2015, where it was awarded the Cinema & Gioventù prize for best international short film.

Children Will Listen (World Premiere)

Director: Dustin Scully

Callicoon native Dustin Scully makes his directorial debut with this intense story of the cycle of abuse as a young man starts his life as a husband, and recalls the uncomfortable memories of his own parents' troubled relationship. The film was shot on location in Callicoon, NY.

Individual film tickets are \$10. All-Access Festival passes are \$75, and include a guaranteed seat at all screenings, including opening night, admission to a Saturday evening cocktail party, and a complimentary BEFF tee shirt. Six-Packs of tickets are available for \$40 (which does not include opening night, nor the cocktail party).

All screenings take place at the Tusten Theatre, 210 Bridge Street in Narrowsburg, NY. For more information and tickets, visit BigEddyFilmFest.com or call 845-252-7576.

About the Big Eddy Film Festival

Produced by Delaware Valley Arts Alliance of Narrowsburg, NY (DVAA), the Big Eddy Film Festival aims to advance the traditional art of storytelling by showing the newest and best independent films from around the world and our own backyard. Visit BigEddyFilmFest.com.

About the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance

Delaware Valley Arts Alliance, founded in 1976, serves as Arts Council for Sullivan County, NY. DVAA's mission is to advance the arts in the region through support and encouragement of artists; innovative programs; advocacy; and alliances with arts organizations, business, and government. Visit DelawareValleyArtsAlliance.org.

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Filmmakers and Big Eddy Film Festival director available for interviews.

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