



***THIRD ANNUAL BIG EDDY FILM FESTIVAL
ANNOUNCES FILM SELECTIONS***

***Opening with "Goodbye to All That"
by writer/director Angus MacLachlan***

***At the Tusten Theatre, Narrowsburg, NY
September 19 to 21, 2014***

The **Big Eddy Film Festival** is pleased to announce the official selections for its third annual event taking place in Narrowsburg September 19 to 21, 2014. The Festival opens with the IFC Films release "Goodbye to All That," directed by Angus MacLachlan and starring Paul Schneider, Melanie Lynskey, Amy Sedaris, and Heather Graham.

Twenty-seven new independent films have been selected, including an inspiring documentary about the use of music to reawaken memories in those with dementia ("Alive Inside").

Tina Spangler, Program Director of the Big Eddy Film Festival, said, "The festival will feature an exciting array of new work by established and emerging filmmakers covering fascinating subjects and captivating characters."

The film selection includes four documentaries, two narrative features, and 21 short films, plus a program of films currently being made by local youth. A total of 31 directors will be presenting works

at the Festival. Five of the film selections have a local connection to Sullivan County and/or the Catskills region. There are two programs of family-friendly short films.

Tickets and All-Access Festival passes will be available at BigEddyFilmFest.com or by calling 845-252-7576. Opening night film tickets are \$15. All other individual tickets are \$10. All-Access Festival passes are \$100, and include admission to a Saturday evening cocktail party. Children under 12 may attend any film for \$5; children under 5 attend for free.

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.

2014 Big Eddy Film Festival Official Selections:

Goodbye to All That - OPENING NIGHT FEATURE

Director: Angus MacLachlan

A light-hearted comedy about divorce in the age of smart phones and online dating, “Goodbye to All That” follows the loveable, if clueless Otto (Paul Schneider) through his first befuddled months after his wife (Melanie Lynskey) unceremoniously files for divorce. Co-starring Amy Sedaris, Heather Graham, and Heather Lawless, the film chronicles Otto’s surprisingly prolific sexual encounters, each pushing him beyond his comfort zone. Directed by screenwriter Angus MacLachlan, best known for writing the 2005 film “Junebug,” the film is ultimately a portrait of a good man struggling to be a role model and reliable parent for his pre-teen daughter (played by the show-stopping Audrey P. Scott).

Preceded by the short film **Dig**

Director: Toby Halbrooks

A young girl watches her father dig a hole in their backyard. Mystified about his purpose, the neighborhood comes to watch.

Kumiko, The Treasure Hunter

Director: David Zellner

A reclusive Japanese woman discovers a VHS copy of the Cohen Brother's film "Fargo" and sets off on a treasure hunt to Minnesota to find a large case of money buried in the snow in the movie's pivotal scene. This hauntingly beautiful film with a whimsical streak won a special jury award at the 2014 Sundance Film Festival, and numerous audience awards at festivals around the world. In English and Japanese with English subtitles.

Alive Inside

Director: Michael Rossato-Bennett

"Alive Inside" is a joyous cinematic exploration of music's capacity to reawaken our souls and uncover the deepest parts of our humanity. This stirring documentary follows social worker Dan Cohen, founder of the nonprofit organization Music & Memory, as he fights against a broken healthcare system to demonstrate music's ability to combat memory loss and restore a deep sense of self to those suffering from it. Filmmaker Michael Rossato-Bennett chronicles the astonishing experiences of individuals around the country who have been revitalized through the simple experience of listening to music. His camera reveals the uniquely human connection we find in music and how its healing power can triumph where prescription medication falls short.

This screening is sponsored by Elizabeth Kubenik in memory of William Hughes.

Trailer here: <http://www.aliveinside.us/#trailer>

Preceded by the short film **A Place Called Pluto**

Director: Steve James

Greg O'Brien, long-time Cape Cod reporter and newspaperman, has been diagnosed with Early Onset Alzheimer's. Acting on instinct and journalistic grit, Greg has decided to face down the disease and his imminent decline by writing frankly about the journey. Documentarian Steve James is best known as the producer-director of "Hoop Dreams," winner of every major critics prize of 1994.

The Case Against 8

Directors: Ben Cotner, Ryan White

“The Case Against 8” is a behind-the-scenes look inside the historic case to overturn California's ban on same-sex marriage. The high-profile trial first makes headlines with the unlikely pairing of Ted Olson and David Boies, political foes who last faced off as opposing attorneys in Bush v. Gore. The film also follows the plaintiffs, two gay couples who find their families at the center of the same-sex marriage controversy. Five years in the making, this is the story of how they took the first federal marriage equality lawsuit to the U.S. Supreme Court.

This screening is sponsored by GALA (Gay and Lesbian Alliance of the Catskills) and The Upper Delaware LGBT Center.

Trailer here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_l8rFk1cte0

My Own Man

Director: David Sampliner

David the filmmaker is 40 years old, but he still doesn't feel like a man – not a real man anyway. When his wife becomes pregnant with a boy, David's manhood insecurities deepen. How can he bring his son into manhood if he feels so estranged from his own? This question sets him off on a quest that leads him from voice lessons to a men's group to deer-hunting, and ultimately back to his own father. “My Own Man” is an intimate, humorous, and emotional account of one man's search for what it means to be a man and a father in the 21st century.

Trailer: <http://myownmanthemovie.com/trailer/>

Preceded by the short film Morning of Everything

Director: Jeff Stern

Shot on Black Betty (a one-of-a-kind 16mm digital cinema camera) and starring real-life father and son Jeff and Leo Stern, “The Morning of Everything” is a lyrical short film in which a father envisions the world through the eyes of his three year-old son.

Trailer: <http://themorningofeverything.com/trailer/>

When Jews Were Funny

Director: Alan Zweig

“We complain, we eat, and we’re funny. Those are the three life forces of Judaism,” jokes comedian Howie Mandel in this documentary exploring Jewish comedians doing their ‘schtick’ and attempting to answer why Jewish humor is unique and why Jews make great storytellers. “When Jews Were Funny” features Marc Maron, Howie Mandel, Gilbert Gottfried, Rodney Dangerfield, Eugene Mirman, Bob Einstein, Judy Gold, David Steinberg, Jackie Mason and many more.

This screening is sponsored by Ken Sable in memory of Philip R Sable.

Preceded by the short film **The Baptizm of Joshua Cohen**

Director: Rob Caudy

Come hell or high water, 12-year-old Bobby O'Byrne is determined to baptize his Jewish friend, Josh, to save him from eternal damnation. This light-hearted story was shot on location in Washingtonville and Montgomery, NY.

I Heart New York – Documentary Shorts

New York City is a place of eight million stories. Here are five of them that will make you fall in love with the city—and it’s inhabitants—all over again. Note: this program contains some adult content not suitable for children.

Told almost entirely in voicemail messages left by their upstairs landlady Rita, Brian, Thomas, and their cat Casper endure a 12 month sentence in a charming Manhattan apartment in “**One Year Lease**” (Brian Bolster, 11 min); Documenting the streets of New York City since the 1970s, photographer Flo Fox is not going to let MS, lung cancer, and blindness stop her from pursuing her art in “**Flo**” (Riley Hooper, 10 min.); A group of for-profit urban farmers in New York City set out to build the world’s largest rooftop farm for the 2012 growing season in “**Brooklyn Farmer**” (Michael Tyburski, 27 min.); “**Font Men**” (Andre Andreev and Dan Covert, 7 min.) profiles Jonathan Hoefler and Tobias Frere-Jones, who ran the most successful and respected type design studio in the world, making fonts used by the Wall Street Journal to the President of the United

States; In a custom-designed facility in Mt. Kisco, New York, a very special program brings together elders with dementia and young children in **“My Little Friends”** (Megan Mylan, 10 min.).

Forces for Good – Documentary Shorts

Enliven your outlook on humanity with these inspiring stories of perseverance, courage, and big heartedness.

A stunningly courageous young actor, Marianna Palka, confronts her risk of Huntington's Disease with the help of her friends in **“The Lion’s Mouth Opens”** (Lucy Walker, 15 min.); **“Flight of the Archangels”** (Sean O’Grady, 30 min.) chronicles the philanthropic adventures of a group of Honesdale, PA-based aviators and medical professionals on the island of Haiti; Mark Kologi has collected and sold millions of forgotten personal photos of complete strangers in **“The Photo Man”** (Ben Kitnick, 7 min.); The **“Hortonville Volunteer Fire Company”** marks its 100th anniversary in this portrait of a Sullivan County community (Isaac Green Diebboll, 9 min.); Three 6-year-old girls share a passion for skateboarding, and princesses, in **“The Pink Helmet Posse”** (Kristelle Laroch and Ben Mullinkosson, 9 min.).

Animated Tales – Shorts for Kids

These colorful, imaginative works take viewers, young and old, to new animated worlds.

A lonely little girl who yearns for somebody to talk to begins to confide in the moon from her bedroom window in **“Hannah & the Moon”** (Kate Charter, Scotland, 6 min.); Bear’s hat is gone. None of the animals say they’ve seen it, until his memory is sparked by a deer who asks the right question in **“I Want My Hat Back”** (Galen Fott, USA, 9 min.); Drawn with lush brushstrokes, a young, lonely pig encumbered with an important job meets a fox who changes everything in **“The Dam Keeper”** (Robert Kondo and Dice Tsutsumi, USA, 18 min.); A farmer struggles to keep his farm when Mr. Fall’s fault finding goes too far and a judge must question his judgment in **“Fallt”** (Chadwick Whitehead, USA, 2 min.); A boy, having lost his glasses explores a blurry world of unknown places and strange

characters in “**Astigmatismo**” (Nicolai Troshinsky, Spain, 4 min.); A sushi chef prepares for his day but is interrupted by an unexpected customer in “**Sumo Roll**” (Jay Kim, USA, 4 min.).

Icehouse Arts Kid Flix

Short videos by local youth created in summer 2014 in media workshops led by video artist Ron Littke of Icehouse Arts provides fun viewing for the whole family. \$5 for adults. Kids are free. No advance ticket sales.

About the Big Eddy Film Festival

Produced by Delaware Valley Arts Alliance, the arts council for Sullivan County, 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 www.BigEddyFilmFest.com.

About the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance

Delaware Valley Arts Alliance, founded in 1976, serves as Arts Council for Sullivan County, New York. 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 www.ArtsAllianceSite.org.

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