

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY PRESENTS ...

THE 49TH ANNUAL

HOLDI BOLDI

INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL



HOSTED AT THE FAMOUS MINOR THEATRE IN ARCATA CA







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OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Humboldt International Film Festival is to create a space for independent filmmakers to express themselves, free from the censorship of mainstream media. The festival is particularly aware of the power of short, independent film: we seek those which inspire social and environmental change.

HUMBOLDT INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL: ON THE EDGE OF HISTORY

The **Humboldt International Film Festival** has been the perfect place to showcase a wide variety of independent and alternative short films since 1967. Next year, because of the vision and drive of the HSU students, our festival will be 50 years old: it's a feat of film fest history - and something our HSU, CSU, and Humboldt community can be proud of.

HIFF holds an international reputation for supporting and celebrating filmmakers working in four types of film - experimental, narrative, documentary, and animation. This year, we received 225 entries from 24 different countries including Cuba, Mexico, Germany, Taiwan, Spain, Australia, China, Tobago, Cyprus, Portugal, Spain, Russian Federation, France, Brazil, Poland, and Bahrain. The festival promotes film as an art, a form of entertainment, and also a reliable vehicle of self-expression with an end result in dialogue about issues such as political, social and cultural topics that many find controversial.

Currently the festival hosts four days of public screenings, as well as student workshops with guest filmmakers chosen as judges. As it is completely student driven, three co-directors run the show and work side by side with the other students preparing this festival for the better part of two semesters. Countless hours are spent tabling (spreading the word on HSU's quad), making buttons and flyers, coming up with ideas to raise money for the festival and so on. Films entries that run from a minute to thirty minutes are screened in class and are rated by the students with an industry standard rubric that assesses technical quality, creative originality, emotional reaction, and clarity of intentions. To keep a fair and equitable judging atmosphere, students are not allowed to talk until the balloting is completed and handed in at the end of the class session. Once film submissions have closed, finalists are selected from the top numeric ranking in each category. You'll screen those finalists this week.

We offer a special thanks to Josh Neff, the owner of the new Minor, for working tirelessly to get the theatre ready for our festival. We encourage the film-loving community of Humboldt to embrace and support his vision. The city, Josh, and the art of film deserve it.

We hope you enjoy the student-selected finalists this evening and will join us here at the Minor on April 19-22, 2017 for the celebration of a lifetime: the Golden Anniversary of an amazing long-standing HSU tradition.

Susan Abbey



Michelle Cartier

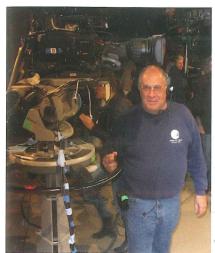
Guest Judge and Filmmaker

An alumnus of Humboldt State University, having received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Film, Dr. Michelle Cartier is an educator, media poet, and community activist whose philosophical research continues to examine

'love' as an ethics and responsibilities of a media culture. She holds a PhD in Media and Communication from the European Graduate School where she worked closely with French Philosopher Jean-Luc Nancy, through an extensive study of his writings on Being Singular Plural, and under the mentorship of French filmmaker Claire Denis for her revered filmic style of non-verbal language in cinema.

As a filmmaker and media poet, her work consistently pushes the boundaries of the frame and is often best translated through interactive media performances. Characteristically including short original films, socio-political remixes of pop-culture, and live DJ-ing, Dr. M. Cartier's theoretical focus un-works as a relentless invitation for her audience to coauthor an experience of authentic communication. Michelle was recognized in 2006 at the Humboldt International Student Run Film Festival for her short experimental work Redemption: An Ode to Stanley Tookie Williams, receiving Honorable Mention in Documentary, and has, ever since, continued to strengthen the plurality of her personal and political stance as an artist. The technical style of her filmmaking is usually dense with an eccentric mix of 16mm Optical Printing, super-8 found footage, and multi-media digital remixes.

Dr. M. Cartier has extensive experience in organizing, teaching and curating critical thinking through active media events for people of all ages and a diversity of backgrounds. Her recent publications, events, and films include: The Media Poet, a philosophical text on the contemporary responsibilities and ethics of a media culture, published in 2012 by Apropos Press; PUNISHMENT On Trial: Step 34, Reclaiming Human Rights, a multi-media event and speaker panel curated to bring awareness and raise discussion about the complexities associated to the death penalty; and Identity and Orifices Part II, a collection of short experimental films on the incision of love and forgiveness, for the Open Heart Show hosted by the Ink People. She has recently returned to working on the development of her 2006 launched media poet collective, Los Media Poets, which aims to serve as a creative mentorship project for youth and community members towards the promise of social justice with change through the development of new learning and literacy techniques as the very happening of a media culture.



Howard L. Ritter, DGA

Guest Judge and Producer, Director & Filmmaker

I obtained my BFA in 1968, and my Directing MFA in 1970—both from Ohio University. I attended Parsons College through 1972, and since then have worked in the Southern California television industry. In 1976, I became a member of the Director's Guild of America - my assignments have included single & television, children's specials, situation comedies & new media for the internet. I most enjoy the HD multi-camera quad split

coverage production process which accompanies scripted story driven media. Network television awards include a 2001 Directors Guild Award for **General Hospital**, Associate Director and Primetime Emmy contributions to **Night Court** in 1989, Associate Director, and **NBC Donohue & Kids** in 1981, Stage Manager.

In 1980, I was the Assoc. Director for Alan Landsburg Productions on **That's Incredible**, the second reality program on network television for ABC. At that time I concentrated on live/tape multi-camera production and post-production CMX electronic editing and Sweetening. Post editing inspired me, and I chose to strengthen my skills as a post-production Associate Director whenever possible for the next thirteen years.

In 1982, I began working in situation comedies such as **Soap**, **Night Court** and **Oh**, **Baby**. I so enjoyed the sitcom scripted experience that I continued to direct and associate direct in network television in that genre. Whenever possible, I continue to work in daytime drama as an Assoc. Director to further enhance my booth & stage communication skills.

In 1984, I helped launch the NBC one hour Daytime Drama entitled **Santa Barbara** using my production background in studio and my post production skills in the edit. I observed the rehearsal process of directors working with the acting ensemble, and learned much regarding the moment-to-moment layering as part of an actor's work in developing a character for performance.

Since 1992 I have worked as a guest artist within the California State University system and CSU Summer Arts, and other Southern California Universities as a way of giving back to others as my mentors have done to me in theatre and network television. My present teaching assignment is at Humboldt State University in the Theatre, Film & Dance Dept.

For the last six years I've worked with Disney on multi-camera sitcoms series for The Disney Channel and the XD Channel.

I have lived in Pasadena, CA for twenty-three years with my wife, Karen, and we are proud of our two daughters, Blaire Anna Lacey, an MA graduate of University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and Skylar Amelia LaRue, a recent graduate of Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA.

Karen and I currently live in Eureka, CA with our young, but stubborn Scottish Terrier, Maggie McPhee. As a family, we enjoy our time together at home, traveling, and camping adventures throughout California.



George Nelson III

Guest Judge and Filmmaker

Hoopa Tribal member George Nelson III first realized he had an interest in filmmaking after editing his first documentary, a film about the 1955

and 1965 Humboldt County floods, during his sophomore year at Hoopa Valley High School. He used a consumer-grade VHS camcorder, VCR deck, and found footage that his grandfather shot on Super 8mm. George is a Humboldt State University Graduate, an award-winning filmmaker, and the owner of War Pony Films.

While serving in the United States Air Force as an Avionics Technician, George traveled through Germany, Western Asia, New Zealand, and Antarctica. Having grown up as a member of a federally recognized tribe in a small community, the experience of meeting tribal members from other nations made a profound impression on him.

George is the winner of a cinematography award from the Kennedy Center of Performing Arts for his work on the HSU Theatre Arts Production of "City of Angels." He also received a Telly Award for Director of Photography for his work on a local commercial.

After graduating from Humboldt, George worked for the Hoopa Tribal Education department teaching Photography and Filmmaking classes to high school youth. He led a project for the 2nd annual White House Film Festival working with K-12 youth to produce a film in just over 5 days. The film placed among the top 10 percent of entries winning an Honorable Mention at the 2015 White House Film Festival.

George is currently working on a series of educational films documenting the Hoopa culture, language and tribal customs for future generations.

Animation / Experimental Night

April 20, 2016

Switch Man (3:38) Hsun-Chun Chuang Taiwan, Animation



Dr. Evil Mantis invades K City and creates mass destruction.
One young man stands up to fight him.

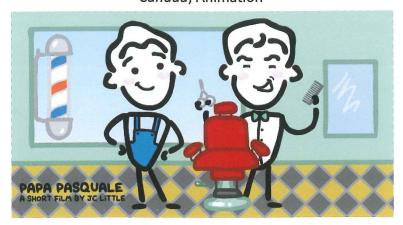
The Last Judgment (2:59)
Junyi Xiao
USA, Animation



50 years ago the Culture Revolution took place in China. This story takes place during that special time period.

April 20, 2016

Papa Pasquale (4:23) JC Little Canada, Animation



A young man dreaming of adventure, Pasquale leaves his family in the olive groves of southern Italy and heads to Canada in 1951.

> Hum (8:30) Tom Teller USA, Animation



A solitary dishwashing robot living out his life in the back room of a restaurant is enlightened to the world that exists beyond his four walls.

Animation / Experimental Night

April 20, 2016

Cuerdas (10:52) Nora Marco Alaria Spain, Animation



María's routine at school is altered by the arrival of a very special child.

Revoltoso (29:40) **Arturo and Roy Ambriz** Mexico, Animation



The story of a little one-eyed boar who lives in Don Gonzalo's hacienda during the Mexican Revolution in 1913.

April 20, 2016

The Wind (2:31)
Jinyue Wan
USA, Animation



A man brought a gift to visit his lover. However, love is not always sweet...

Lilly's Big Day (4:42) The Bum Family USA, Animation



Lilly, a 10-foot tall orange monster, steps out for a special day at Wilma's Super Salon.

Animation / Experimental Night

April 20, 2016

Lilly Gets a Pet (5:15)
The Bum Family
USA, Animation



Lilly, a ten-foot tall orange monster, undertakes an epic journey in Wanda's Pet Shop in search of a friend.

The Land Before Time Machines (6:29)
Nick Saucedo
USA, Animation



A dinosaur travels from the past to our time only to find a lot has changed in 65 million years.

~~~ INTERMISSION ~~~

April 20, 2016

**Infinite** (7:14) Julius Damenz USA, Experimental



A poetic exploration of the elements of existentialism & death as the narrator takes the audience on an emotional journey through the different stages in his life.

> Field Notes: Tree 1 (3:29) Kate Lain USA, Experimental



A meditation on the meaning of one artifact of modernity.

# **Animation / Experimental Night**

April 20, 2016

Simon (11:58) Camille de Galbert USA, Experimental



A man prepares for his final entry onto the grand stage, only to be confronted by his inner self.

> Will I Scatter Away? (5:39) Emma Penaz Eisner USA, Experimental

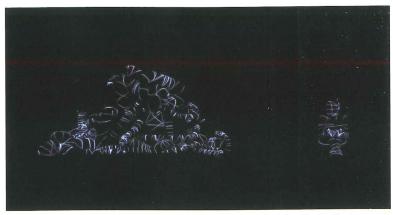


Danger threatens a man seeking himself in a dream-like landscape.

April 20, 2016

#### **Doors of Perception (14:30)**

Caroline Schwarz Germany, Experimental



In a world where everything unknown is black, Infinity, a nameless person, has to overcome the temptation of the visible to be free.

# A Partial History of the Natural World, 1965 (6:45) Sasha Waters Freyer USA, Experimental



A meditative exploration of the violent struggle for independence in SE Asia and butterfly metamorphosis. This film reminds us that comfort is a privilege.

Disclaimer: Extreme war violence

# **Animation / Experimental Night**

April 20, 2016

Mourn (3:05) Camille Carpenter USA, Experimental



Mourn is a pop culture media collage that uncovers the exciting sludge of diversions keeping female American "role models" from facing an innate and collective sorrow. What's left is a vague hollowness and a yearning for a simplicity that has long been dead.

# Heartbreak & Beauty (14:41) Genevieve Clay-Smith, Nathan Basha, Libby Banks, Robin Bryan Australia, Experimental



Heartbreak and Beauty combines music, visual metaphor, dance & original poetry to express how we are all connected through our shared human experiences of love and loss.

April 20, 2016

More Than Just Parks | Redwood (3:48)
Will & Jim Pattiz
USA, Experimental

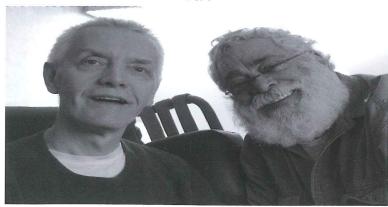


Northern California's Redwood National & State Parks are home to the tallest trees in the world.

# **Documentary Night**

April 21, 2016

Alzheimer's: A Love Story (16:24)
Gabe Schimmel
USA



Alzheimer patients live an average of 8 years after diagnosis - it's been 12 years for Greg. He can no longer walk, use the bathroom independently, or feed himself. Every day Michael comes to visit for a couple of hours.

### **Documentary Night**

April 21, 2016

**Slabbers** (10:29) Tanner DiGirolamo *USA* 



Now known as SLAB CITY, Fort Dunlap, about 200 miles SE of Los Angeles, was a World War II desert training facility. It is now home to about 150 year-round squatters.

**Growing Resistance: Drought, Oil & Climate Change In Calif.** (28:13)

Bunker Seyfert

USA



Communities on the frontline are rising up against the immediate health and climate impacts of the oil and gas industry disproportionately impacting the most vulnerable in the state.

### **Documentary Night**

April 21, 2016

After 1,437 Years (20:00) Hossein Jehani USA



Ideological responses to ISIS have varied throughout the world. In Iraqi Kurdistan the response has been the resurrection of Zoroastrianism, an ancient religion.

~~~ INTERMISSION ~~~

Wild at Heart (12:59) Devan Robertson USA



Cheryl and Tom Millham strive to save traumatized and dying animals in the mountains. This is the journey of their lives and marriage as they prepare to move on from their life's work.

Documentary Night

April 21, 2016

The Last Tear (11:00) Christopher H.K. Lee USA/Korea



Asian women were forced into sexual slavery by the Japanese imperial army. This film centers on the few surviving women who were forced to work as "comfort women," as they were euphemistically called, to Japanese soldiers during World War II.

Titanes Del Arte (15:45) Mor Albalak USA



Three successful contemporary Cuban artists have to overcome the obstacles of a U.S. Cuba embargo.

Documentary Night

April 21, 2016

We Are Fucked: An Environmental Film (10:58)

Andrew Sobey

USA



Through a series of shorts about ocean acidification, the film plainly lays out the stakes and then challenges both audience and filmmaker to think and act differently.

A Drag Queen for Kids (15:50) Byron Karabatsos USA



Dito Van Reigersberg and his alter ego, Martha Graham Cracker, prepare and perform a kids show.

Narrative Night

April 22, 2016

The Light Thief (19:00)
Eva Daoud
Bahrain



When the essence of Love is snatched from someone and locked away in a vessel with no name, what happens to them and how do they change?

I've Just Had a Dream (7:25) Javi Navarro *Spain*

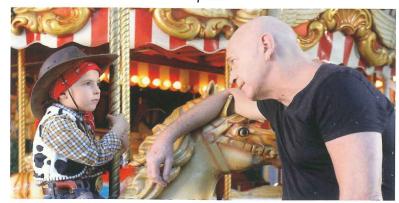


Irene is eight, and she just woke up from a horrible dream.

Narrative Night

April 22, 2016

Cowboys (20:00) Bernabé Rico Spain



Martin is a finished actor, both professionally and personally. He's divorced, has no friends and has a son he hasn't talked to for more than a year. One day he gets an offer his agent won't let him pass up.

The Dynamic Double Standard (4:33) Luke Patton USA

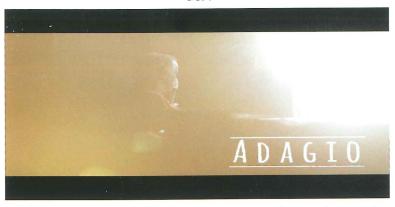


Zoey's first night as a superhero is nearly ruined when she's given a sexy and impractical uniform.

Narrative Night

April 22, 2016

Adagio (8:00) Kevin Wolf *USA*



The evolution of a father/daughter relationship and their shared love for piano after the father is diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease.

Guide (18:26) Jackson Miller *USA*





When John discovers his guide dog & best friend is dying, his world seems to crumble. Unwilling to seek a new dog, but unable to live without one, John struggles to find the strength to say goodbye and push on.

~~~ INTERMISSION ~~~

# **Narrative Night**

April 22, 2016

The Last Words (18:49) Keegan Mullin USA



Placed into hearing schools as a child and forced to speak, David struggles with the decision to speak for the first time since childhood if he wishes to say goodbye to his dying mother.

**Total Awesome Viking Power** (14:47) Morten Forland *USA* 



When Viking role player Vidar is sidelined to "the land of the dead" he seeks help of the god Odin, who agrees to teach Vidar the ways of the Vikings.

### **Narrative Night**

April 22, 2016

**Groundhogs** (20:00) Jamel Northern *USA* 



Conflict arises between two lovers over a brutal murder in their past.

**Twinsburg** (15:48) Joe Garrity *USA* 



Jerry, sentimental about his fading twin identity, reunites with his reluctant brother Paul for a weekend of revelry at the world's largest congregation of twins.

### **BEST OF THE FEST NIGHT**

April 23, 2016

#### **Special Awards**

#### **Pablo Koontz Award**

Best Experimental Technique in a Film
Presented by Maria Matteoli

#### Ledo Matteoli Award

Best Film with an Immigration Theme
Presented by Maria Matteoli

#### **Humboldt Film Commission Award**

Best Film Celebrating Local or Environmental Sustainability
Presented by Nairobys Apolito

#### **Best of the Fest Screening & Awards**

~~~ Presented by the Judges ~~~

Best Animation Award \$250

Best Experimental Award \$250

Best Documentary Award \$250

Best Narrative Award \$250

Best of the Fest Award \$400

HIFF FESTIVAL FACULTY ADVISER



This is Susan Abbey's fifth year as the Festival Faculty Adviser for the HIFF. Originally from the intermountain west, she has been an educator and actress in theatre for nearly 40 years. Her bridge to film began as a graduate assistant, teaching several classes of the Introduction to Film course, while earning her MFA in Directing at Brigham Young University. Susan's work in film continued when she took her performance skills to the acting side of the camera: while living in Salt Lake City, she began working in films, television, commercials, print ads, and voice-over projects. She continues to act and direct locally when time and opportunity come together. Susan has been a lecturer in the Department of Theatre, Film, and Dance at HSU since 2007.

HIFF Student Co-Directors

Kyrie Hood is a senior at Humboldt State University. She is a Film Major with a minor in Art Studio. She loves independent films, which inspired her to continue her second year as co-director for the Humboldt International Film Festival. Some of her favorite things include music, good food, and books.



Emily Hall is a senior at Humboldt State University. She is a Film major and Multicultural Queer Studies minor. Her favorite things include binge watching her favorite shows on Netflix, swimming, traveling and trying new things. This is one of the reasons why she is thrilled to be a co-director for Humboldt's Film Festival.



Nairobys Apolito is a senior at Humboldt State University. She is a Film major and a photography minor. Some of her favorite things to do include watching old school horror and sci-fi movies and reading books.



Humboldt Film Festival Class 2015 - 16 *

All entries to the Humboldt International Film Festival are pre-screened and rated by HSU students who are enrolled in the Film Festival Class and members of the Film Festival Club. The students also create and promote the event throughout the year through a variety of activities, as well as work several fundraisers. Though they represent a mix of different majors and areas of study, the students all share a mutual passion or interest in film and filmmaking.

49th Humboldt Spring Festival Class & Club Members

Back Row Left to Right:

Anibal Polanco, Gail Camenzind, Maddy Harvey, Ryan Watt, Katelyn Ferrie, Robert Mendez

Front Row Left to Right:

Andrew Weisz, Ray Cisek, Dylan Steinert, Sophie Zinda



* Join the fun and be part of the historic planning for our 50th HIFF Anniversary.

Register for FILM 260 now!



Rotating Seasonal Menu of

Sweet Pies

- Savory Empanadas & Pot Pies
- Gluten-Free & Vegan Options
- **Custom Orders**
- Take & Bake Pie Crusts

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THE HUMBOLDT INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING

Josh Neff, Owner Minor Theatre
Ken Ayoob, Dean of College of AH&SS
Ann Alter, TFD Department Chair
Joan Tyson, A.S. General Manager
David Scheerer, Film Professor
Cassandra Hesseltine, Humboldt County Film Commissioner

Shannon Pringle, CSU Media Festival Program Coordinator

Bug Press Printing Company

Fire and Light

Christy Laird (Arcata Stay Lodging)

Center Arts

Wendy Butler, KHSU

KIEM-TV News

Bi-Coastal Media

Brian Papstein and KINS FM, KEKA FM, KWSW AM
(Destination Radio) & KURY AM, KURY FM
The Department of Theatre, Film & Dance
Steve Limonoff, TFD Film Technician

Debra Ryerson, TFD ASA

Lorraine Dillon, TFD ASC

Rick Fabre, HSU Department of Art

Jillian Butolph

Mildred Correa Hernandez

Please Join us for our 2016-17 Season

PETER AND THE STARCATCHER

Musical, Based on the Novel by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson
By Rick Elice
Music by Wayne Barker
Directed by Rae Robison
Musical Direction by Elisabeth Harrington & Paul Cummings
October 2016
JVD Theatre

COLUMBINUS

By Stephen Karam and PJ Paparelli With contributions by Josh Barrett, Sean McNall Karl Miller, Michael Milligan and Will Rogers Directed by Troy Lescher December 2016 Gist Theatre

DANCE

Choreography Projects
December 2016
Evening of Dance
December 2016
JVD Theatre

JULIUS CAESAR

By William Shakespeare March 2017 JVD Theatre

SPRING DANCE CONCERT

Artistic Director Sharon Butcher April 2017 JVD Theatre

50th HUMBOLDT INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

April 2017 Minor Theatre, Arcata

REAL WOMEN HAVE CURVES

By Josefina Lopez April 2017 Gist Theatre

DANCE

Dance Fusion May 2017 JVD Theatre

Evening of Dance

May 2017 JVD Theatre