

Marblehead Festival of Arts

For Immediate Release

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Marblehead Festival of Arts Announces Lineup for Winter Film Festival

Marblehead Little Theatre to Provide New Venue

Marblehead, MA (February 9, 2007) – The Marblehead Festival of Arts proudly announces the lineup for its upcoming Winter Film Festival, to be held at the Marblehead Little Theatre on Marblehead on Wednesday, February 28. Recently renovated, the MLT features comfortable seating, a theatre-sized screen, and an excellent audio-video system. The program consists of fourteen short films, including three not screened at the summer Festival. The doors will open at 7:00 pm and the event itself will start at 7:30 pm. Filmmaker Julia Radocia will be on hand for a discussion immediately following the program, which includes her film, *Jimmy's House of Hugs*. Admission is free. The entire film schedule may be viewed at: www.marbleheadfestival.org

It must be noted that these works are intended to show the many ways that film and video can be used as an art form to inform and express. They are not commercial films found in your standard multiplex. While some of these works may certainly be enjoyed by children, not all of the films will be understood by them. Parents should review the lineup and decide if they are appropriate for their young children.

Led by Mike Evers, the Winter Film Festival Program was designed by Committee members Barbara Papish, Sandy Rhoads, Bill Smalley, Lauri Stolarz and Caryle Anne Wildfield. The Festival, an all-volunteer, not-for-profit organization, offers many volunteer opportunities. For more info, visit the Festival Web site, www.marbleheadfestival.org/volunteers, or call 781-639-ARTS.

The MFoA Winter Film Festival will showcase the following films:

***MTV Ad* Michelle Roderick :30**

What is that you're watching? You'll see in the next 90 minutes! Michelle Roderick, a local talent, is now living in New York City. This is one of her pieces.

***Just a Day at the Beach* Steve Webster :51**

There's plenty of fanfare as nature takes big bites out the shoreline. Steve Webster is the Creative Director at Impact Design, an independent creative firm located in Marblehead. Steve also designed the Arts Festival logo this year.

***Opening Night Jitters* Steven Stuart Baldwin 10:10 Minutes**

Set up as an old-fashioned silent movie, this film shows what happens when a desperate director needs to rescue his play from the clutches of a temperamental actor just before its first performance. Steven Stuart Baldwin, a Beverly filmmaker who is the director of Playomatic Media, created this film as part of the nationally based 48 Hour Film Project which requires participants to create a film from concept to finished product in 48 hours. Steven's film won the local award for best acting and best editing and was voted an audience favorite.

***Santa Sopranos* Steve Webster 1:23 Minutes**

He sees you when you're sleeping...he knows when you're awake...and by the time he gets to you, he knows what you deserve. Another short piece by the Creative Director of Impact Design.

***Gertrude L. Thebaud* Barry O'Brien 7:55 Minutes**

A documentary about a famous fishing schooner, built in 1929 to compete against Nova Scotia for the International Fishermen's Cup, this film is not only the story of the rise and ignominious fall of a famous schooner but also a story of the times in which she sailed. Barry O'Brien is the head of North Shore Communications Group, a company in Gloucester that provides marketing and training tools via web, print and video media.

***Somedays* Emily Roberts 3:46 Minutes**

An experimental music video about the need to connect. This is the third film we've shown by Swampcott's Emily Roberts (now a student at Brown University), and she never fails to surprise.

***In Any Other Form* Matthew Ecclesiastre 2:24 Minutes**

In this reflective, meditative film, a young man reflects on the meaning of his life and what he wants for the future. Matthew Ecclesiastre, a poet, story writer, filmmaker and photographer, made this film in cooperation with RAW Art Works, the non-profit organization in Lynn that offers children and teenagers the opportunity to express themselves in a variety of art forms.

***In the Tradition of My Family* Todd Davis 15:41 Minutes**

A seemingly normal family has an unusual tradition, which is the focus of the film. The repellent nature of this tradition brings into question the way we acquiesce to damaging traditions and practices. Todd Davis is a director editor, and producer whose production company, orLater Productions, is located in Boxborough. His film is based on a published short story by Phil LaMarche. *Note:* This film contains graphic images of physical injuries.

***Why I Love My Sisters* Jessica Hoffses 4:29 Minutes**

A young woman reflects on her sisters and, although they annoy her, is still willing to accept that they resemble human beings...at least for now. A stay of execution by a Lynn filmmaker who is a student at North Shore Community College and a member of the RAW Arts group.

***Just Another Passerby* Angela Santora and Aaron Legere 1:47 Minutes**

Angela Santora, whose RAW Arts film was shown in the Film Festival last year, is back again with a RAW Arts music video that asks the eternal question, Is There One Person Who Is Meant For Me? Ms. Santora is now in her first year at the Massachusetts College of Art. Aaron Legere is in his first year at the Savannah College of Art and Design.

***Little Mary* Sandra Powers 4:45 Minutes**

Little Mary by Sandra Powers. 4:45 minutes This film is inspired by gothic films from the silent era and the aesthetics of experimental films from the 1950s and sixties. It's set in a theatre with bizarre and sinister goings on. Get in contact with your own internal puppetmaster—or puppet. Sandra Powers is a filmmaker from Jamaica Plain whose works have been shown in Boston, Providence, Miami, the Netherlands, and elsewhere.

***Jimmy's House of Hugs* Julia Radochia 5:40 Minutes**

You could call *Jimmy's House of Hugs* a late night cable TV infomercial from another planet...or you might say "What a great idea! Someone should open up something like this in Marblehead!"

You be the judge. Another film from the talented and prolific Julia Radochia. *Note:* This film contains strong language in parts.

Milton is a S**G* Courtney Davis 4:17 Minutes**

This is an animation about a woman's testy relationship with her cat, Milton. Who will win in this clash of Big Egos? Courtney Davis is a Texas filmmaker who has produced, directed, and acted in both feature-length and short films. *Note:* This film contains strong language in parts.

***Uso Justo* Coleman Miller 22 Minutes**

There's a good chance that you've never seen a film like this. The title is Spanish for "Fair Use", a legal term which refers to the justified use of copyrighted materials without payment of royalties, and which refers to the film itself, "found footage" of a 1959 Mexican hospital melodrama. The real story is told with the use of subtitles as the characters suddenly realize that their film has been hijacked by an "experimental filmmaker". Coleman Miller has been making films for twenty years (for MTV and Lollapalooza, among others) and *Uso Justo* won the "Best of the Fest award at the prestigious Ann Arbor Film Festival. *Note:* This film contains strong language in parts.

About Marblehead Festival of Arts (MFA)

Founded in 1962, the Marblehead Festival of Arts has a rich history in producing a premier summer arts festival that has become a unique forum for artistic expression. Traditionally held each year over July 4th weekend, the Marblehead Festival of Arts hosts a wide range of art exhibits (painting, sculpture, photography, drawing, etc.), outdoor music concerts overlooking Marblehead Harbor, Writer's World, the Street Festival, Children's Festival, Artisan's Marketplace and many other cultural activities designed to provide a fun and enriching experience for the entire family.

The Marblehead Festival of Arts Inc is a not-for-profit organization comprised of area residents who volunteer their time and services in a variety of capacities. With the mission to promote and foster artistic events and activities in the town of Marblehead, this organization was launched in 1962 by producing an annual Arts Festival. Today, in addition to its summer arts program, the Marblehead Festival of Arts sponsors events throughout the year, promotes area artists, supports up and coming art students via an annual scholarship and contributes to the town's overall cultural climate.

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