



FILM BIOS

Wild & Scenic Environmental Film Festival

Wednesday, March 24, 2010

Vinegar Hill Theater

Charlottesville, VA

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

180° SOUTH

Woodshed Films | 4 minutes

This is a trailer for the Spring 2010 release of the film, "180° SOUTH." It is a new film told through the eyes of climber/surfer/writer Jeff Johnson during a 6-month voyage to South America to climb a mythical peak called Corcovado. The film delves deep into the roots of climbing, surfing and the environmental movement's most prolific renegades in the hope of finding a new generation's compass in an over-populated, techno-industrial society. Johnson's gritty story telling conveys a unique voice for environmentalism based on experience rather than pie charts and idealism. His cynical humor and humble approach belie his status as a bona fide underground legend. www.woodshedfilms.com, www.180south.com

PARK(ing) Day NYC 2007

StreetFilms | 6 minutes

The mission of StreetFilms is to document livable streets best practices throughout the world and enlighten the general public that their streets can be safer for pedestrians and bicycles. The ultimate goal is to encourage more human-friendly cities and rethink the way our streets are allocated. Streetfilms does this by making sometimes complex traffic and transportation concepts simpler by using video, animations, and language that the public can understand. Park(ing) Day is an international event that reclaims over 200 parking spots in 50 cities around the world and transforms them into engaging public spaces for one day a year.

Brower Youth Awards 2008

Phoebe Meyers

Earth Island Institute | 5 minutes

Earth Island Institute established the Brower Youth Awards in 2000 to honor founder and legendary environmental activist, David R. Brower and to call forth a new generation of leaders. The awards honor six young people for their outstanding activism and achievements in the fields of environmental and social justice advocacy.

MINE

Sally Rubin, Jen Gilomen | 15 minutes

To keep up with our world's increasing demand for energy, we are mining the earth for natural resources and putting communities worldwide at risk. The documentary film MINE tells the story of the human impact of our voracious appetite for energy through the lens of a town deep in the Appalachian mountains of eastern Kentucky, where coal is king. (US, work in progress) www.minedocumentary.org

Litterball

Josh Murphy | 1 minute

A short film that illustrates the power of vision. If we all wore rose colored glasses, our positive outlook could change the world. Solutions are as easy as changing perspective. (US, 2008) www.upproductions.com

Roadless is More: Taking Care of Our National Forests

Adam Cramer, Tom O'Keefe, Nat Lopes | 2 minutes

Backcountry areas that remain road-free provide a host of ecosystem services, such as clean drinking water and a refuge for many imperiled species. They also contain extremely high value recreational opportunities. Now, more than ever, these wild, backcountry areas need the help of those who enjoy them most-outdoor recreation enthusiasts. (US, 2008) www.outdooralliance.net, www.hilride.com

Homegrown Revolution

Jules Dervaes | 16 minutes

In the midst of a densely urban setting in downtown Pasadena, radical change is taking root. For over twenty years, the Dervaes family has transformed their home into an urban homestead. As a family for this new paradigm, they harvest nearly 3 tons of organic food from their 1/10 acre garden while incorporating many back-to-basics practices, as well as solar energy and biodiesel. (US, 2007) www.freedomgardens.org

Zoologic

Nicole Mitchell | 4 minutes

A fussy zookeeper goes about his daily routine, but he must contend with a very uncooperative little penguin. Student Academy Award (US, 2007)

The Last Descent

Kathryn Scott, Charlie Center, Scott Ligare | 29 minutes

Join a group of world-class whitewater kayakers to some of the world's most amazing rivers ... descending them possibly for the last time. The Marsyangdi River of Nepal, the Brahmaputra River in India and the White Nile River in Uganda are all threatened or are in the process of being destroyed by large scale hydroelectric projects. The film closes in California with the Tuolumne River and the growing movement to restore Hetch Hetchy Valley in Yosemite National Park. 2009 Wild & Scenic People's Choice Award (US, 2009) www.thelastdescent.com, www.internationalriver.org

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Visulite Theater

Staunton, VA

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Brower Youth Awards 2008

Ivan Stiefel

Earth Island Institute | 5 minutes

Earth Island Institute established the Brower Youth Awards in 2000 to honor founder and legendary environmental activist, David R. Brower and to call forth a new generation of leaders. The awards honor young people for their outstanding activism and achievements in the fields of environmental and social justice advocacy. www.broweryouthawards.org

Orangutan Foundation International

Channel G | 6 minutes

Orangutans are a species under continual threat of extinction in the wild due to habitat loss as the tropical rainforests of Borneo and Sumatra are being logged, much of it illegally, and converted to palm oil plantations. Combined with extensive poaching, orangutan populations are on the edge of extinction and could be completely gone within the next five to 10 years. OFI has an orangutan care center and orphanage for over 200 orangutans needing to be cared for in preparation for reintroduction to the wild. www.orangutan.org , www.channelg.tv

Carpa Diem

Sergio Cannella | 2 minutes

Before sleeping, a child in her apartment is lovingly watching a fish in the aquarium. In the meantime her younger brother is being mindless of the open tap the water flowing out of the washbasin ... a waste that could turn into a tragedy. Many awards, including Best Short, Vatavaran FF; Best Spot, Festival International Du Film Sur L'Énergie de Lausanne. (Italy, 2006) www.sergiocannella.it

A River's Last Breath

Trip Jennings | 14 minutes

After a deadly introduction to rafting, China turned its back on multi-use river management and focused on building dams even faster than the US in the 1960s. This film tells the story of that deadly rafting history and Travis Winn's attempt to change the way China thinks about its waterways through his rafting company, Last Descents River Expeditions. (China, 2008) www.riversindemand.com

Papiroflexia

Joaquin Baldwin | 3 minutes

Spanish for "origami," Papiroflexia, is the animated tale of Fred, a skillful paper folder who could shape the world with his hands. Multiple awards. Animation (US, 2007) www.pixelnitrate.com

Rita

Young Filmmakers Award - Wild & Scenic Film Festival 2008

Alison Teal Blehert-Koehn | 6 minutes

This film is a true story about Alison, a seven-year-old girl who has been dragged around the world by her adventure travel guide/photographer/yoga-teaching parents and longs to be a kid and stay in one place long enough to have friends and go to school with children her own age. Unexpectedly, during one of the family's expeditions high in the Himalaya of Nepal, she befriends a seven-year-old Sherpa girl named Rita. Alison sneaks out to join Rita and they embark on a wild and touching adventure over an 18,000 ft. pass near the base of Mt. Everest—a journey that plops them right in Alison's dream world. Kids Choice, Telluride Mountainfilm, Best Family Short, Boulder Adventure FF, Nominated for MTV Movie Award. (USA, 2006)
www.alisonteal.com

Division Street

Eric Bandick | 49 minutes

This is not your father's road trip. Roads and cars have fragmented wild landscapes, ushered in urban sprawl, and challenged some of the bedrock values we once took for granted. But as the transportation crisis appears to be spiraling out of control, a new generation of ecologists, engineers, city-planners, and everyday citizens are transforming the future of the American road. From pristine roadless areas to concrete jungles, follow filmmaker Eric as he tours North America, dodging Yellowstone's grizzlies and Miami's taxicabs, and highlighting sustainable road projects and wildlife corridors for the 21st century. (US/CANADA, 2008)
www.divisionstreetmovie.com, www.transalt.org