

> 09.23 *through* 10.01

>>>> 2010



「
FRIARS CLUB
COMEDY
FILM FESTIVAL」



A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

I am delighted to welcome you to the Second Annual Friars Club Comedy Film Festival. We'll be presenting over 50 films over the next eight days, showcasing all types of comedy from around the world. These films are hilarious. They're also, in our view, some of the most important films of the year. In an era of increasing political correctness and self-censorship, we believe it is all the more important for comedy to consciously "push back" against the headwinds of intellectual conformity, to challenge us to question what we take for granted, and ultimately to maintain the outward boundaries of freedom of speech.

Will some people be offended in the process? Without a doubt. There will always be those who argue that comedy is insensitive or has gone "too far," especially in tougher times. Here at the Friars Club, we fervently hope there will always be more of us to rise up in defense of comedy. From Lenny Bruce to Bill Hicks to the filmmakers being presented this week, comedians continue to inspire us to be honest about our society and ourselves, even—and especially—when that may be uncomfortable.

You don't often hear it described in these terms, but whether they're on film or on stage, comedians have a great responsibility to teach us to laugh at ourselves. Laughter humanizes us, and in our view it's essential.

On behalf of the Friars Club and the many volunteers, donors and sponsors who have worked tirelessly to make this festival possible, I thank you for supporting comedy and independent film, and hope that you'll join us at the Friars Club this weekend for good times and lots of laughs.

Sincerely,
Friar Charlie Prince
Festival Executive Director

ABOUT *the* FRIARS CLUB

The Friars Club

The Friars Club is the legendary show business institution home to comedians, musicians, actors, producers and celebrities from all walks of entertainment. Since their inception in 1904 the Friars have become famous for their roasts where they choose an individual and rake his or her ego over the coals with their sarcastic wit and sharp-tongued barbs. Their clubhouse, a six-story Renaissance mansion located in New York City's mid-town area, has been the Friars headquarters for half a century, offering a gathering place for members to meet, greet and strut their jokes. The Friars are always in motion producing various comedy and musical in-house events as well as a dedication to charitable giving through their own charities and Foundation.

The Friars Foundation

The Friars Foundation was established in 1977 as the charitable arm of the Friars Club. It is a publicly supported Foundation and is the conduit through which the Friars accomplish one of its major goals: the betterment of our society, particularly in the area of the performing arts. Their mission is to help small performing arts groups create excellent innovative and affordable programs for the enrichment, education, and enjoyment of diverse audiences and participants. The Foundation also helps prepare the next generation of performers and musical artists through scholarship programs for students studying the performing arts.

STAFF LISTINGS, SPECIAL THANKS & FRIARS CLUB

Festival Staff

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Charlie Prince

PROGRAMMING DIRECTOR

Eric Johnson

COMMUNICATIONS

DIRECTOR

Sue Constantine

ASSISTANT COMMUNICATIONS

DIRECTOR

Jaime Marsanico

COMMUNICATIONS

Ross Carey, Julie Rockett,
Terry Yuen

OPERATIONS DIRECTORS

Jor Law, Clem Turner

FINANCE DIRECTOR

John Miller

COORDINATING DIRECTORS

Barry Dougherty, Alison
Grambs, Larry Schatz

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Rob Goldstone and
David Wilson at Oui2

WEBSITE DIRECTOR

Dave Kogut

FESTIVAL DESIGN

& ARTWORK

OrangeYouGlad

INTERNS

Peter McCue
Christiaan Tahyer

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Calvin Swaim

ASSISTANT TECHNICAL

DIRECTOR

Greg Raposa

VIDEO UNIT

Tom Blake, Marc Cantone,
Chantal Demorial, Josephine
Martorana, Tina Quach, Matt
Tucker

PHOTOGRAPHY

Brooke Connolly, Luke Redmond

PROGRAMMING COORDINATOR

Alison Grambs

SENIOR PROGRAMMERS

Sue Constantine, Susannah
Gora, Erik Piecuch, Andrea
Simmons

PROGRAMMERS

Zachary Abella, Steve Amchan,
Sharon Bayuga-Miller, Tom
Blake, Scott Blakeman, Sarah
Blundell, Stephen Boske, Debra
Braganza, Sydney Brown, Ross
Carey, Marc Eliot, Keith
Fairclough, David Friedman,
Juan Garcia, Kelli Garcia, Peter
Hartmann, Wolf Joffe, Art Liebe-
skind, Jor Law, Nick Leczinski,
Joe Mathers, Pete McCue, John
Miller, Steven Mumford, Nancy
Ozelli, Tara Parian, Amber
Pennington, Greg Raposa,
Janna Ritz, Steven Scott, Calvin
Swaim, Christiaan Tahyar, Ben
Travers, Clem Turner, Nikos
Tzavaras, Kelvin Yen

CORE CLUB

Stefan de Nooijer, Pablo de Ritis

PALEY CENTER FOR MEDIA

Amira Eldessoky, Eric Geppner,
Amy Handler, Andrea Kaplan,
Doug Warner

Friars Club

ABBOT

Jerry Lewis

DEAN

Freddie Roman

PRIOR

Stewie Stone

TREASURER

Fred C. Klein

SCRIBE

Stu Cantor

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Michael Gyure

GENERAL MANAGER

Michael Caputo

HBO

Andy Goldman, Ted Morano

JAPAN SOCIETY

Samuel Jamier, Shannon
Jowett, Kuniko Shiobara

SPECIAL THANKS

Delta Airlines, City National
Bank, Ziegfeld Theatre,
The Upright Citizens Brigade
Theater, Michelle Barbara, Sean
Baptiste, Livia Bloom, Maria
Ciampa, Selena Coppock,
Sara Fee, Andrew Goldman,
Bret Gutstein, Stefan Lawrence,
Zac McGowan, Joe Mathers,
Diana Nasello, Maria O'Brien,
Amber Pennington, Ravi Pillia

GET YOUR TICKETS

\$10

Individual
Ticket

\$59

Weekend Pass

\$125

Festival Pass

Individual Tickets: (\$10.00)

A limited number of individual tickets will be available for most films. Panel Events are not individually ticketed and are only available in advance to All Access passholders, however a limited number of standby tickets will be available on a first come first served basis. Similarly, standby tickets for sold out screenings will be available on a first come first served basis at showtime.

Weekend Pass: (\$59.00)

Valid for films and panels Fri/Sat/Sun only (Sept 24-26). Includes a ticket to the Competition Awards Party on Sunday night.

Festival Pass: (\$125.00)

Valid for films and panels Thurs - Thurs (Sept 23-30), including Opening Night and Closing Night films. Includes a ticket to either the Friday OR Saturday night parties, as well as a ticket to the Competition Awards Party on Sunday night.



OPENING NIGHT

TERE BIN LADEN

Directed by Abhishek Sharma

A tongue-in-cheek comedy about a young news reporter from Pakistan who is desperate to migrate to the US to start his dream. After being continually shot down, he comes across an Osama Bin Laden look

alike and devises a plan to leak fake Bin Laden footage to the press and jumpstart his career. Unfortunately the White House gets involved and sets a secret agent on his trail.

SPOTLIGHT FILMS



TINY FURNITURE

Directed by Lena Dunham

Winner of Best Feature at the 2010 SXSW Film Festival, *Tiny Furniture* follows 22-year-old Aura who returns home to her artist mother's TriBeCa loft with the following: a useless film theory degree, 357 hits on her Youtube page, a boyfriend who's left her to

find himself at Burning Man, a dying hamster, and her tail between her legs. Luckily, her trainwreck childhood best friend never left home, the restaurant down the block is hiring, and ill-advised romantic possibilities lurk around every corner.

SPOTLIGHT FILMS



I AM COMIC

Directed by Jordan Brady

Through candid interviews and unprecedented backstage access, this documentary explores the world of the working comedian and reveals a funny psychological profile of its practitioners. Also, we follow a retired comic's attempt to get back on stage after a thirteen-year absence. Ritch Shydner, at the top of his game

in the 1980's, had HBO specials, shot five pilot TV shows, and had numerous late night appearances (Carson, Letterman, Leno, etc.) but never reached the big time. Ritch gives it another shot, but the scene has changed. Does Ritch have what it takes to connect with today's young crowds, and still get the laughs?



NEW LOW

Directed by Adam Bowers

The worst thing about Wendell isn't his slightly balding head, skinny frame or thin lips; it's that he's a bit of an idiot. He just started dating Vicky, an angry drunk, who conveniently shares his lack of ambition and cleanliness. But he might prefer a relationship with Joanna because she's a selfless social worker who doesn't have lip acne. Eventually, Wendell is going to have to decide who he really belongs with: the best girl he's ever known --- or the worst.



AMERICAN: THE BILL HICKS STORY

Directed by Matt Harlock and Paul Thomas

The Bill Hicks Story brings the tale of one of modern culture's most iconic heroes to the big screen. Much more than a comedian, Bill Hicks was and still is an inspiration to millions. His timeless comedy tackled the contradictions of America and modern life head on. But his unique gift was to tease apart the essence of religion, the dangers of unbridled government power and the double standards inherent in much of modern society, using nothing but his hilarious ideas and the uncompromising observational style that continues to resonate with successive generations.



SPOTLIGHT FILMS



JUST LIKE US

Directed by Ahmed Ahmed

This documentary features Egyptian-American comedian Ahmed Ahmed, in his directorial debut, along with a host of critically acclaimed international stand-up comedians. Presented by Cross Cultural Entertainment and Cross Cultural Productions, *Just Like Us* exemplifies their goal of reintroducing socially relevant

issues to the world in an effort to build cultural bridges in this age of greater tolerance, understanding and acceptance. The film documents four countries in the Middle East, showcasing the cultures of Dubai, Lebanon, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and Egypt with sold out crowds totaling over 20,000 people.



SKELETONS

Directed by Nick Whitfield

"It's simple, this job: stick to the rules, tell them everything, leave and never come back."

A pair of travelling salesmen wander in and out of people's lives, performing a Procedure whereby hidden secrets and lies are exposed.

When they arrive at a remote family home and can't seem to get the job done, they discover that you can't always get away from your own skeletons.

LOCATIONS

1 the Friars Club

57 E 55th Street (btw Park & Madison Aves)
New York, NY 10022
(212) 621-6600

2 the Paley Center For Media

25 W 52nd Street (btw 5th & 6th Aves)
New York, NY 10019
(212) 621-6600

3 Ziegfeld Theatre

141 W 54th Street (btw 6th & 7th Aves)
New York, NY 10019
(212) 777-FILM

4 HBO Theater

1100 6th Ave, 15th Floor (btw 42nd and 43rd)
New York, NY 10036
(212) 512-7467

5 the Core Club

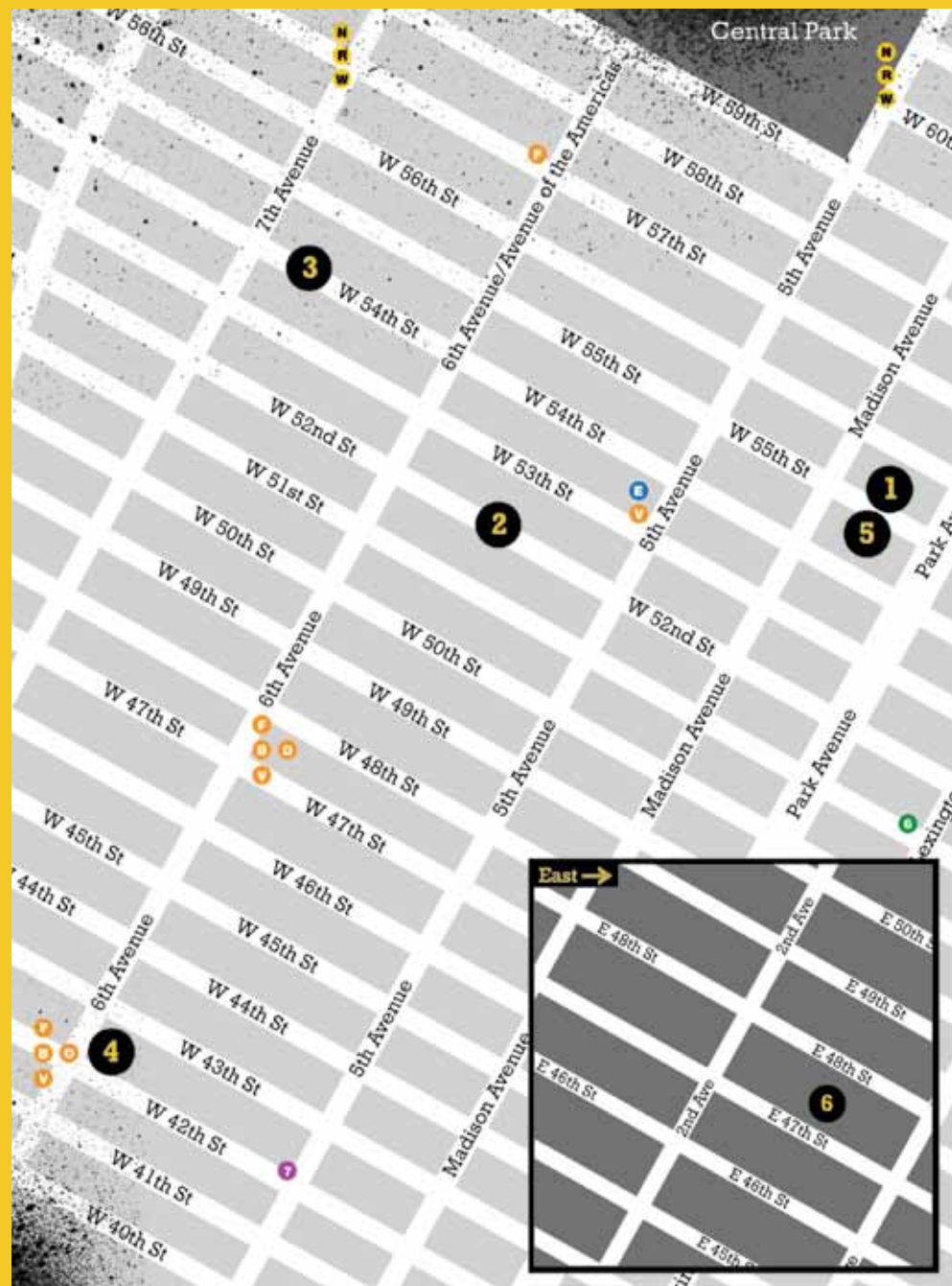
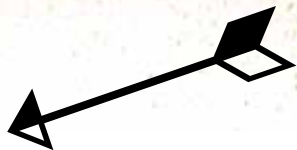
66 E 55th Street (btw Park & Madison Aves)
New York, NY 10022
(212) 486-6600

6 Japan Society

333 E 47th Street (btw 1st & 2nd Aves)
New York, NY 10017
(212) 832-1155

7 Cantor Film Center

36 East 8th Street (btw Greene St. and University Pl.)
New York, NY 10003
(212) 998-4100 * Not shown on map



SCHEDULE

KEY

- Festival Passholder Only
- Feature Films
- Short Films
- Panel Discussions
- Parties
- * Italicized titles indicate Short Films*

Thursday, September 23, 2010

ZIEGFELD THEATRE

8 PM	Tere Bin Laden (8pm)
9 PM	
10 PM	

Friday, September 24, 2010

	HBO THEATER	THE CORE CLUB	FRIARS CLUB
7 PM			
8 PM	Tiny Furniture (7:30pm)	<i>Dark and Experimental Shorts Block</i> (8pm)	* EARLIER SHOW Retrospective Screening: Lenny (2:15pm)
9 PM			
10 PM	New Low Eat, Drink, Laugh (10pm)	S&M Lawn Care (10pm)	
11 PM			Filmmakers Party (11pm)

Saturday, September 25, 2010

PALEY CENTER 1 PALEY CENTER 2 FRIARS CLUB JAPAN SOCIETY

Time	Paley Center 1	Paley Center 2	Friars Club	Japan Society
10 AM				
11 AM				
12 PM				
1 PM				
2 PM				
3 PM	One Too Many Mornings <i>W.O.W. 1</i> (2:30pm)			
4 PM				
5 PM		The Love Potion <i>Civil War Letters</i> (4:30pm)		
6 PM			The Christmas Party <i>The Cow Who Wanted To Be A Hamburger</i> (5:30pm)	
7 PM				Cast Me If You Can (7pm)
8 PM				
9 PM				
10 PM				Air Guitar Extravaganza Party (10pm)

Sunday, September 26, 2010

FRIARS CLUB PALEY CENTER 1 PALEY CENTER 2 CANTOR FILM CENTER

Time	Friars Club	Paley Center 1	Paley Center 2	Cantor Film Center
1 PM				
2 PM				
3 PM				
4 PM			Disney Shot Kennedy <i>Los Four McNiffikos</i> (3pm)	
5 PM			Dumbstruck <i>The Apostles</i> (3:30pm)	
6 PM				
7 PM				Brother's Justice <i>A Short Film</i> (7pm)
8 PM				
9 PM			Competition Awards Ceremony & Party (9:30pm)	

DARK & EXPERIMENTAL SHORTS BLOCK

1. Spoiler
2. F--K
3. Shadow Puppets
4. The Tomato
5. Sucker Punch
6. Wonder Palms
7. Fetish

SUNDAY SHORTS BLOCK

1. The Antagonist
2. When The Wind Changes
3. Death, Taxes and Apple Juice
4. God of Love
5. Smoke Rings
6. You Move Me
7. Sudden Death!

FriSC SHORTS

1. The Stepfathers: Walk and Talk
2. Harvard Sailing Team: Another Psycho
3. Midnight Show: Wanna See Something Cool?

* Plus the premiere of a Funny or Die short!

Monday, September 27, 2010

HBO THEATER

THE CORE CLUB

7 PM
8 PM
9 PM
10 PM

Skeletons
(8pm)

Just Like Us
(7pm)

I Am Comic
(8:45pm)

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

FRIARS CLUB

6 PM
7 PM
8 PM
9 PM

The Bellboy
Jerry Lewis
Retrospective
Screening 1
(6pm)

The Nutty Professor
Jerry Lewis
Retrospective
Screening 2
(8pm)

► Wednesday 09.29.10

8pm
Four Lions
at the HBO Theater.

See program insert
for details.

► Thursday 09.30.10

8pm
L.A. Comedy Shorts
Festival presents Best
of the Fests.

See program insert for
details.

► Friday 10.01.10

12pm
The Friars Club
Roast of
Quentin Tarantino.

NOTE: Attendance Strictly
Limited to Friars Club
Members and Participating
Filmmakers only.

FEATURE FILMS

THE LOVE POTION

Directed by Danny Hastings

A film that debuted at the HBO Latino International Film Festival, *The Love Potion* is a fun, funny, unique romantic comedy that explores the 5 elements of love. As it does, the film introduces a wide range of entertaining, often hilarious, characters (4 of them played perfectly by actress Stephanie Ortiz). Held together by the smooth, comic narration of Daniel Valenzuela (Danny Hastings), a psycho-loco-gist of love, *The Love Potion* brings an original, welcome flair to the romantic comedy genre.

Director Danny Hastings will be in attendance.



Disney Shot Kennedy

DISNEY SHOT KENNEDY

Directed by David Lawrence

When their publisher sells out, the lives of the slacker employees of the Oswald Conspiracy Newspaper get all shook up. In the last week of the paper's existence, the staff hatches plans to save the paper, but they also face the prospect of preparing their final issue and moving on with their lives. An original, free-spirited story that evokes thoughts of some of the most well-known, and best, independent comedy ensembles.

17

DUMBSTRUCK

Directed by Mark Goffman

An entertaining, heartfelt documentary follows a diverse group of ventriloquists trying to break it big and the amazing \$100 million roller coaster ride that results. A former Miss Ohio contestant, a teen facing the scrutiny of his father, a six-foot-five woman, a middle-aged unknown from rural Texas and a cruise ship performer facing life away from his family all strive for one thing – to entertain their audiences. When one of them gets a shot at the big time, the results will leave you laughing at life's surprises. *New York Premiere.*

Director Mark Goffman in attendance.

BROTHER'S JUSTICE

Directed by David Palmer, Dax Shepard

Actor Dax Shepard abandons his burgeoning comedic film career in favor of his dream to become a martial arts action hero. Lacking any formal training, with no funding for his blockbuster script and facing rejection at every turn, Shepard shows that there is no obstacle too great for an iron will. Shepard hits all the right notes as he pitches his idea through Hollywood, drawing Tom Arnold, Bradley Cooper, Nate Tuck, David Koechner, Jon Favreau and others into his plan and getting banned from televised awards shows in the process. *World Premiere.* Dax Shepard, Tom Arnold and Nate Tuck in attendance.



Brother's Justice

THE CHRISTMAS PARTY (Julefrokosten)

Directed by Rasmus Heide

Anders Bo is new in town. His first assignment at his new job? To infiltrate the competition, collect their client list and help put them out of business. But the more he gets to know the characters of the competition, the more he feels that he may have made the wrong choice. A terrific ensemble cast carries the story of the rollicking, sometimes sexy, holiday party that defines this Danish comedy.

In Danish, with English subtitles.

Director, Producer in attendance.



One Too Many Mornings

ONE TOO MANY MORNINGS

Directed by Michael Mohan

Two old high school friends, both facing turning points in their lives, reconnect in this film that premiered at the 2010 Sundance Film Festival. Peter arrives holding a secret about his long-term relationship. Fischer lives, works and parties at a church and has no plans for anything more. When they rekindle their friendship, they find that sometimes when you run away from your problems, you smack headfirst into someone else's. *Cast in attendance.*

S&M LAWN CARE

Directed by Mark Potts

A breakout comedy from director Mark Potts details the story of two guys whose dreams and lawn business are threatened when a slick, sexy new competitor moves into town. Original, entertaining characters form the backbone of a place where lawn care treaties are made, corndogs can kill and no one can grasp the proper name of frozen ice treats.

World Premiere. Director Mark Potts, cast in attendance.

CAST ME IF YOU CAN (Wakiyaku Monogatari)

Directed by Atsushi Ogata

Director Atsushi Ogata's first feature film tells the story of a supporting actor, always mistaken for others, who longs to be a leading man and gets his break when cast in a Woody Allen remake. But a series of misadventures throw his dream into chaotic disarray. When a fellow female character actor enters the picture, he wonders if he even has what it takes to be the leading man in his own life. A charming romantic comedy from Japan with excellent performances support a sweet, subtle story that will leave you smiling.

In Japanese, with English subtitles.

East Coast Premiere.

Director Atsushi Ogata in attendance.



Cast Me If You Can

18

SHORTS

A SHORT FILM

Winner of Best Short Film at L.A. Comedy Shorts 2010, it's a hilarious film with short actors, short horses and long credits.

CIVIL WAR LETTERS

A comedic look at a story that Ken Burns never told.

DEATH, TAXES AND APPLE JUICE

A sweet, comic tale of two women spending the day doing taxes and discussing life...with a twist.

F--K

Some people will do anything to find the location. Sam Rockwell, Mariska Hargitay, Bob Balaban, Eric Bogosian, Leslie Bibb, Bobby Cannavale, Yul Vazquez, Daphne Rubin-Vega, Christopher Meloni and Jesse Martin star in this ensemble film that challenges its audience to think outside a traditional narrative.

FETISH

A beautifully composed, perfectly acted, darkly comic look at a journalist's obsession with a celebrity (Joan Collins).

GOD OF LOVE

Lounge-singing, darts champion Raymond finds his prayers are answered - literally - when he receives a mysterious package. Romance is in the air in this bohemian charmer. 2010 Student Academy Award™ winner for narrative film.

LOS FOUR McNIFIKOS

Three Spaniards tell a comically revised version of break dancing history.

SHADOW PUPPETS

A dark, skewering comedy tells a story of tense puppet/human relations when a family of puppets move next door to a self-described fluff-o-phobe.

SMOKE RINGS

A throwback short that proves that sometimes the best love stories are the ones without words.

SUCKER PUNCH

A man harbors a secret that is threatened to be revealed when he enters the world of a bare knuckles boxing syndicate.

THE APOSTLES

Jesus and the Apostles deal with the mundane, surprise and treachery of splitting the bill after the last supper.

WONDER PALMS

A quick, funny, offbeat film about the happiest place in the universe!



THE ANTAGONIST

When a woman is dragged to a child's birthday party by her long-suffering boyfriend, she winds up offending the host and alienating everyone who crosses her path.

THE COW WHO WANTED TO BE A HAMBURGER

A children's fable about the power of advertising, the meaning of life, and ultimately, the test of a mother's love. Bill Plympton in attendance.

SUDDEN DEATH

Los Angeles has been overtaken by a virus known as Sudden Death Syndrome, a disease that causes its victim to die suddenly and has only one symptom... spontaneously breaking into well-choreographed song and dance.



THE TOMATO

Two performers, the Tomato and the Banana, face a crossroads in their spiralling personal and professional lives when a school principal (Oscar Nunez) lets a small secret slip.



SPOILER

A man enjoys ruining the end of movies for others until one day he receives a mysterious video in the mail. Is it a prank, or a real-life spoiler of what's in store for him?

W.O.W.1

A quirky British short about the dangers of bunker life in wartime when you don't plan ahead.

WHEN THE WIND CHANGES

A terrific Australian comedy about two guys with a problem much bigger than their struggling pontoon charter boat business. A funny, touching story of friendship that lasts through any circumstances.

YOU MOVE ME

Two cynical best friends go on a covert mission to retrieve a last batch of belongings from the apartment of a dangerously seductive ex-girlfriend. An American buddy comedy like you've never seen.

EAT, DRINK, LAUGH

A history of New York's famous comedy club Comic Strip Live.

FESTIVAL SPONSORS



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With airline mergers constantly in the news (ours included), it's easy to forget that size alone isn't enough to lead this industry. No one who flies is waiting for a bigger airline; they're waiting for one that's committed to making flying better. To that end, we've taken a look at every part of the experience - from buying a ticket to getting your bags - and dedicated ourselves to constantly improving it. That's an ambitious goal, especially at a time when air travel is under pressure from all sides, but the challenges of this industry have always been its fuel; that was true at Kitty Hawk, and it's true today. So while we're proud to offer over 5,500 flights a day, we won't rest until each one of them is as convenient, comfortable, and hassle-free as possible.

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**In defense
of comedy.**



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