

Northwest Film Forum's 10th Annual

LOCAL SIGHTINGS FILM FESTIVAL

A Celebration of Northwest Filmmaking

Seattle, October 4-11

Now in its 10th year, NWFF's annual festival celebrating Pacific Northwest filmmaking is bigger and more diverse than ever. Over 8 days, the **LOCAL SIGHTINGS FILM FESTIVAL** presents the region's best new narrative features, documentaries, short films and hybrids, including work by film artists from Seattle, Portland, Vancouver B.C. and all points in between.

Our jury of film industry professionals, this year including acclaimed filmmakers **Joe Swanberg** and **Vanessa Renwick**, and **Jonathan Marlow** (former VP of GreenCine and founder of new V.O.D. company Cabinetic), will award cash prizes for the best feature (\$4,000) and short film (\$1,700) in competition. The winning films will also be given the opportunity for theatrical exhibition in NWFF's cinemas.

This year's festival showcases a range of new Northwest work, including seven feature-length films (**The Church on Dauphine Street**, **Acts of Imagination**, **Norman Waiting**, **Monster Camp**, **Made in China**, **Metropole** and the world premiere of **All My Love**), and over forty short films (including eight world premieres, new films from previous Local Sightings award winners Danielle Morgan and Head Juice Productions, and two NWFF commissioned films from Wes Kim and Matt McCormick).

We're pleased to present a number of special programs, including **Stumptown Sap** in which filmmaker and Local Sightings juror Vanessa Renwick presents great short films by Portland artists; **Spletz-O-Rama Invitational**, a competition for Seattle filmmakers led by film impresario Andy Spletzer; the **Avant Sound and Film** show, an eye-and-ear-tingling, live collaboration of musicians and experimental filmmakers; an **Artist Trust showcase** surveying work by media fellowship recipients over that organization's 20 years; and a celebration of Seattle's youth filmmakers highlighting the best work of the '06-'07 **Northwest High School Film Festival**. Each year the festival explores the cinematic history of our region with a special **Century 20** program, this year showcasing **The Bitter Ash**. Awash in drugs and liquor and seething with a generational anger, this 1963 debut film from Vancouver BC director Larry Kent is an early and extraordinary example of New Wave filmmaking in Canada. And of course, as always, Local Sightings promotes

celebration and dialogue through its forum discussions and nightly festival lounge.

We are also proud to announce a very special closing event for this year's festival: live presentations of the Guy Maddin Seattle-produced cinematic spectacle **BRAND UPON THE BRAIN!** at the Cinerama October 10 & 11 with music, foley and narration performed live. Upon its New York premiere, Manohla Dargis of *The New York Times* said "Guy Maddin's latest astonishment has ransacked film history and his own delirious imagination to create a work like none other!" LOCAL SIGHTINGS is pleased to present its Northwest Premiere, bringing the unique project back home to Seattle where it was conceived and produced.

Festival Director Dave Hanagan says, "More than ever before, the films in this year's festival demonstrate the boldest achievements in all genres of cinema. Dramatic narratives tear at the screen with deeply complex characters in *Acts of Imagination*, stories from the survivors of the country's most humbling disaster are shared with the audience in *The Church on Dauphine Street*, and *All My Love* constructs entire new worlds with beautiful and spare non-narrative film compositions."

Northwest Film Forum is excited to present its 10th annual survey and celebration of Northwest filmmaking, and proud to continue its tradition of connecting artists and audiences of the region. Join us for this exciting trip through the Pacific Northwest's creative landscape! ***Full schedule to be announced September 20.***