



FARGO

The Film Festival

MACMURRAY GODDARD
"SUDDENLY IT'S SPRING"

FARGO



MARCH 5 - 8, 2003 • FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA



Margie Bailly
FARGO THEATRE
Executive Director

What the World Needs Now are Movies, Movies, Movies

On March 15th, 2003, the Fargo Theatre will celebrate its 77th birthday. *Movies* at the Fargo Theatre have sustained generations of audiences through wars, stock market crashes, natural and personal disasters and celebrations. Over **seven decades** of *movies* that reflect, satirize, glorify, glamorize, provide insight, and often predict our human condition. The Fargo Theatre has a history to be proud of and a future to protect.

Our Third Annual Film Festival salutes our past and illuminates our future.

It's about *movies* – short *movies*, long *movies*, funny *movies*, sad *movies*, *movies* that shock, offend and provoke, *movies* that give us hope. So, sit back in your seats, get a grip on your popcorn, and open your eyes and minds for the Fargo Film Festival – Take III.

2003 Festival Committee



Photo by Joel Onsurez

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FARGO THEATRE STAFF: Margie Bailly,
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** Denotes Chair of Film Selection Committee*

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Wednesday, March 5th

8:30 a.m. Registration Opens
[Registration remains open throughout the Festival]
12 Noon Opening Press Conference at the Fargo Theatre

1:45 p.m. **Signed, Stamped, Dated:**
The Story of the Typing Explosion

Documentary Short, 29 min. Directed by Gina Mainwal, Seattle, WA
A humorous profile of three female poets who perform wearing 60s secretarial outfits while typing poetry on demand on vintage typewriters.

2:25 p.m. **Buckethead and the Rapture**

Narrative Short, 9 min.
Directed by Matt Brownsword, Brighton, East Sussex/England
A boy is born with a bucket on his head. We follow Buckethead throughout a happy childhood and learn that his mother is a religious fundamentalist who forbids her son to attend school due to the imminent arrival of "the Rapture."

2:40 p.m. **Sniper 470**

Narrative Short, 27 min. Directed by Paul Holmes, Glasgow, Scotland
Billy Boyd is Sniper 470, a lone astronaut sitting in a pod millions of miles from earth. His mission is to destroy passing convoys of spaceships with a giant laser, and, with luck, survive his enemies' lethal counter-attacks.

3:10 p.m. **Birdy in the Cage**

Narrative Short, 9 min. Directed by Greg Carlson, Fargo, ND
This short comedy examines what happens when the ennui of four friends gives way to a desire to learn how to square dance on the hottest day of the year.

— DIRECTOR PRESENT

3:35 p.m. **Downsizing**

Narrative Short, 16 min. Directed by J. Brad Wilke, Tacoma, WA
When faced with an impending economic crisis, mother and father decide that in order to maintain their status as an affluent, upper middle class family, they must adjust their composition by letting one of their three young children go in hopes of increasing cash flow to more important areas of family operation.

4:00 p.m. **Stocking Stuffers**

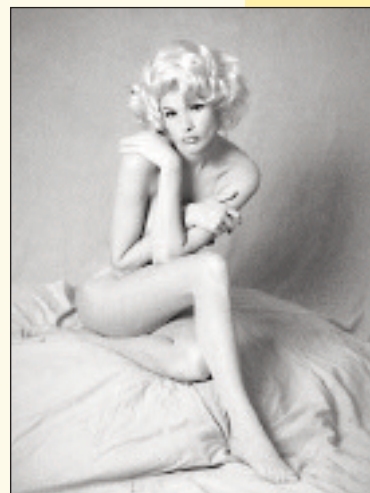
Narrative Short, 4 min. Directed by Angel Connell, Westford, MA
Stocking Stuffers is a comedic film short comprised of three hosiery commercials which examine how an object of desire (the shapely legs of a young woman wearing pantyhose) can be used to subvert human values. How said object of desire is utilized by its protagonists (and viewed voyeuristically by the audience) provides a subtle yet satiric edge to this thinking person's film.



Signed, Stamped, Dated: The Story of the Typing Explosion



Sniper 470



Stocking Stuffers

4:05 p.m. **Old Man Dies**

Narrative Short, 10 min.

Directed by Chris and Ben Blaine, Broormans Park, Hertfordshire/England

An unnamed man lies prone in bed, ready to die, trying to tell his life story – including his work for the Ham and Fish Association, his time as a dancer for a now dead pop band and how he sought insanity to out-manuever death and be reunited with the woman he loves.



Maledetta Primavera

4:20 p.m. **Maledetta Primavera**

Narrative Short, 12 min. Directed by Craig Cobb, Long Island City, NY

A heartbroken young Italian joins a monastery after getting a "Dear Giovanni" letter from his girlfriend. The monastery has a vow of silence which is only broken once a day. After days of blissfully mundane and silent work, he happens to witness the demise of the monastery's relic of its patron saint, and its fraudulent replacement. After increasingly desperate attempts to get the attention of the other brothers, he finally succeeds, only to be told the truth of the relic.

— DIRECTOR PRESENT



Creative Process 473

4:30 p.m. **Creative Process 473**

Best Narrative Short [Comedy] 14 min.

Directed by Perry Grebin and Michael Nigro, New York, NY

Trapped in a small room, two writers running on creative fumes attempt to break free from the limits of scripting a low-budget film. But they hit the wall. Hard.

— DIRECTOR/PRODUCER PRESENT

5:30 - 6:45 p.m.

Opening Night Pre-Party at Monte's Downtown
220 Broadway, Downtown Fargo

Please Note:

Films marked in gold
are Award Winners.

Wednesday Evening Host – Margie Bailly, Executive Director, Fargo Theatre



Dinner Reservations: 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. • Tuesday – Saturday
Lounge: 5:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Nightly

Monte's then the Movies... Movies then Monte's
A winning combination throughout the Fargo Film Festival

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7:00 p.m. **Nancy Burggraf: Power and Stride**

Documentary Feature – Ruth Landfield Award Winner, 57 min.

Directed by Sarah McCurdy, Moorhead, MN

Nancy Burggraf: Power and Stride is the inspiring documentary of a woman from Roseau, Minnesota, who succeeded in a male dominated world and changed the game of hockey forever. Those who knew Nancy treasure her for what she taught them. They continue to pass on her legacy.

— FAMILY MEMBERS PRESENT



Nancy Burggraf: Power and Stride

8:15 p.m. **Ice Cream Sundae**

Best Narrative Short [Drama] 12 min.

Directed by Desiree Nosbusch, Los Angeles, CA

Lisa, an attractive pregnant woman in her late 20s, is strolling through Neiman Marcus, the Beverly Hills landmark department store. She is forty pounds over weight, miserable, and has six more weeks to go. An elegant lady (*Tippi Hedren*) tells the story of a young woman who, just like Lisa, never felt beautiful and desirable enough.

— PRODUCER PRESENT FOR SATURDAY SCREENING



Ice Cream Sundae

8:30 p.m. **Searching for Wooden Watermelons**

Narrative Feature – Ruth Landfield Award Winner, 86 min.

Directed by Bryan Goldsworthy, Burbank, CA

The heartfelt story of three generations of southern women learning to walk the fine line of loving and letting go. When Jude Farnie is forced to choose between her life long dream or taking care of her family she discovers that leaving home is much more than just leaving town.

— WRITER/PRODUCER/DIRECTOR/STAR PRESENT



Searching for Wooden Watermelons



The Ruth Landfield Award

HONORING FILMS CELEBRATING WOMEN OF COURAGE, CONVICTION AND COMPASSION

The Fargo Film Festival committee is pleased to announce a new award in 2003, honoring Ruth Landfield and her long standing commitment to the health and well-being of the historic Fargo Theatre. Films of artistic merit that profile women of courage, conviction and compassion are selected as recipients of the Ruth Landfield award.

Thursday, March 6th

8:30 a.m. **Delafield**

Documentary Feature, 56 min. Directed by Mark Brodin, Minneapolis, MN
Delafied Evangelical Lutheran Church, located in a fertile rural pocket of southwestern Minnesota, was founded by Norwegian settlers in the 1870s and has provided spiritual and social sustenance to subsequent generations in that community for over a century. That continuity was broken in 1998, when the aging, dwindling congregation was forced to face the harsh realities of current American rural life.



Delafield

9:45 a.m. **Intertwined**

Bill Snyder Award for Best Documentary Short, 17 min.

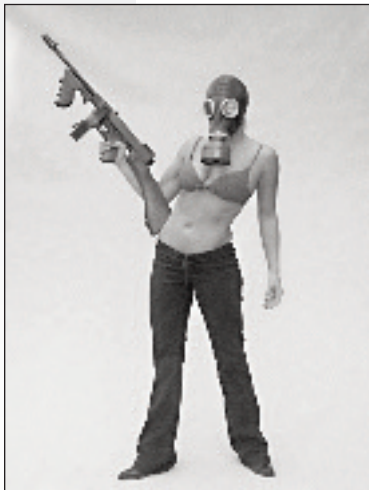
Directed by Kate Oestreich, LaPorte, IN

Intertwined is verbal tug-of-war between two towns both claiming to be the true title-holder of "Town with the Largest Ball of Twine." The dispute has raged for decades, but instead of tearing people apart, it is just another reason for each town to rally behind their ball.

— DIRECTOR PRESENT FOR SATURDAY SCREENING

10:15 a.m. **Umatilla**

Documentary Feature, 84 min. Directed by RJ McHatton, Bend, OR
This is the scary true story of a small American town living next to the world's largest stockpile of mustard and nerve gas bombs, rockets, and chemical weapons. Caught in what can only be described as a Catch-22, everyone in Umatilla is afraid.



Umatilla

12:00 Noon - 1:30 p.m.

Thursday Luncheon at The Avalon Events Center
613 1st Avenue North • Fargo

Luncheon Speaker – Kathleen Laughlin

Director of the Fargo Film Festival's Best Documentary Feature –
The Children Remember

Luncheon Host – Matt Olien, Prairie Public Television Producer/Host of
Plains Talk, Fargo Film Festival Committee and Fargo Theatre Board Member



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1:45 p.m. **The Children Remember**

Bill Snyder Award for Best Documentary Feature, 87 min.

Directed by Kathleen Laughlin, Minneapolis, MN

This film brings to a general audience a revealing and stirring collection of oral history spoken by thirteen candid survivors. Survivors of what? Survivors of life in the 1920s, 30s, and 40s at Minnesota's formidable state school and orphanage, built in 1886 near the small town of Owatonna, Minnesota.

— DIRECTOR PRESENT



The Children Remember

3:30 p.m. **Inside Outside Lydia's Head**

Narrative Feature, 89 min. Directed by Dominick Reyntiens, London/England
Lydia has come to London. She wants to lose herself in urban anonymity, fade into the background of city life. She wants to forget the atrocities of the war she has left behind in her homeland, Yugoslavia. Her nightmares are filled with the horror of this war and, tortured by these nightmares, she is pushed to the edge of madness. But she is waiting. She waits to be followed. She knows he will find her and she waits to be found.



Inside Outside Lydia's Head

5:30 - 6:45 p.m. • Pre-Party Juano's Restaurant
402 Broadway • Downtown Fargo



Welcomes the Fargo Film Festival

Food!

— Enjoy extended hours during the Festival —

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Celebrating Fine Film and

The Bill Snyder Award

A TRIBUTE TO FARGO'S OWN BILL SNYDER FOR DOCUMENTARY FILM MAKING



The Fargo Film Festival documentary short and feature awards honor the significant career and accomplishments of Bill Snyder. Bill is a Fargo native, award-winning filmmaker, and producer and founder of Bill Snyder Films.



Two Summers

Thursday Evening Host – Matt Olien,

Prairie Public Television Producer/Host of *Plains Talk*
 Fargo Film Festival Committee and Fargo Theatre Board Member

7:00 p.m. **Two Summers**

Best Narrative Feature, 118 min.

Directed by Bruce Lapointe, Westmount, Quebec/Canada

Two Summers is the uplifting story of an 8 year old boy whose refusal to “die of loneliness” propels him on the difficult journey to try to bring his deceased mother back to life.

9:30 p.m. **The Utopian Society**

Narrative Feature, 95 min. Directed by John Aguirre, Aliso Viejo, CA

This is the story of six college students from different backgrounds who are assigned to work together on a final project. The students have spent a minimal amount of time together and can't stand each other and are forced to work as a team in order to pass the class. The assignment is to create a utopian society, on paper.

— DIRECTOR/PRODUCER PRESENT



Venice: Lost and Found

Friday, March 7th

8:30 a.m. **Venice: Lost and Found**

Documentary Feature, 58 min. Directed by Brad Bemis, Venice, CA

In Los Angeles, a city awash in humanity, where the most diverse mix of cultures and races have gathered, Venice Beach is a human tide pool, a distillation of the greater metropolis.

9:45 a.m. **Fly**

Student, 12 min. Directed by Jason Russell, El Cajon, CA

Peter's mother has passed away leaving him orphaned and with no one but his best friend Jane to comfort him. Supernaturally, Peter has been given the gift of flight. The only problem is, Jane won't believe him.

Experience this modern day “Peter Pan” fairytale, through the faith-filled eyes of a child.

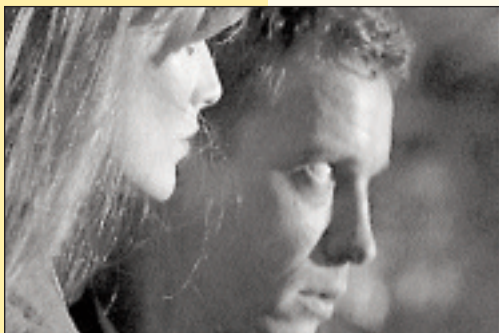
10:00 a.m. **Low Grade Genius**

Student, 8 min. Directed by Kyja Christianson, New York, NY

This film is a character sketch of a girl desperately trying to find meaning in life. Bred for success, the girl has ironically become a reclusive loser.

She secretly begins clinically profiling her dinner dates. Yet, all she finds is her neurotic tendencies, alienation, and the realization that she has become just like her parents.

— DIRECTOR PRESENT



Der Seltsame Klang Der Stille

10:15 a.m. **Der Seltsame Klang Der Stille**

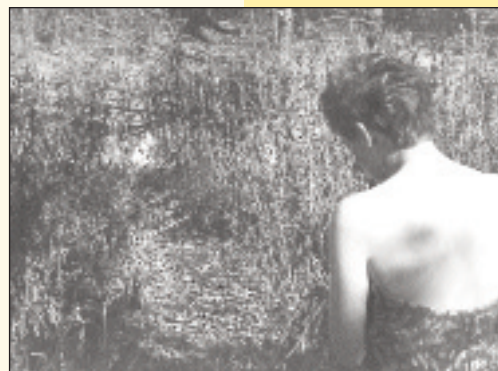
Student, 15 min. Directed by Marcel Baessler, Stuttgart, Germany

A man suddenly loses all human connections and starts a dialog with himself. The situation is full of suspense, sometimes gloomy and also humorous. Irritated by the “Resounding Silence” the viewer hears the sound within himself.

10:35 a.m. **Think But This and All is Mended**

Student, 3 min. Directed by Caity Birmingham, Fargo, ND
Through a series of still photographs, a woman tells the semi-autobiographical story of her life as an actress centered on her relationship with Shakespeare and her relationship with her son.

— DIRECTOR PRESENT



Think But This and All is Mended

10:45 a.m. **Orbital**

Student, 9 min. Directed by Ryan Lanius, Dallas, TX
A rebel strike fleet attempts to evacuate a spy trapped within a heavily fortified enemy space installation that has obtained information that could turn the tide of an intergalactic war. Orbital is the story of how the Rebel forces obtained the schematics of the Death Star.



Orbital

11:00 a.m. **A Short Story**

Student, 7 min. Directed by Daniel Dolentz, Moorhead, MN
After being dumped by his girlfriend for a taller man, Joe, who is a bit short, becomes bitter towards women and obsessed with his height. The result is a look at Joe's fateful day, his coping, and the final solution to his problem.

— DIRECTOR PRESENT

11:15 a.m. **Ocha Cups for Christmas**

Best Student Film, 30 min. Directed by Michael Fimognari, Los Angeles, CA
It is Christmas in Japan and Karen, an American exchange student, is miserably homesick. Frustrated with her poor Japanese language skills and the unyielding cultural differences, Karen surrenders to her despair by secretly stealing tea-cups from her host family. Seeking solace from her loneliness, Karen attracts Mr. Tomori, a charming English teacher who finally offers some comfort – but also another secret to hide – in a forbidden relationship outside the school.



Ocha Cups for Christmas

12:00 Noon - 1:30 p.m. • **Friday Luncheon**
The **Avalon Events Center • 613 1st Avenue North • Fargo**

Luncheon Speaker – Tania Blanch – New York, New York

Luncheon Host – Merry Helm – Writer & Musician – Fargo, North Dakota

Since 1995 Tania Blanch has overseen the Program for Media Artists, which awards Fellowships to media makers in the United States (funded by the Rockefeller Foundation) and in Latin America (funded the Rockefeller, MacArthur and Ford Foundations). She has served as Associate Director of National Video Resources, a New York-based foundation dedicated to building audiences for independent media for the past 10 years. She is active in the U.S. and Latin American independent media field, serving as a board member or advisor to several media organizations in the U.S. and Latin America. Blanch has edited two books devoted to the work of the Media Arts Fellows, among other publications and articles. Her writing was published in an anthology entitled "Cine, Video y Multimedia: La Ruptura de lo Audiovisual (Cinema, Video and Multimedia: The Rupture of the Audiovisual)." A Fargo native, she has lived in New York since 1984.



Tania Blanch

Schedule at a Glance

Wednesday, March 5th

12 Noon	8:30 - 11:45 a.m. – Registration Opening Press Conference at the Fargo Theatre			
	FILM/EVENT	CATEGORY	DIRECTOR	CITY
1:45 p.m.	<i>Signed, Stamped, Dated:</i> <i>The Story of the Typing Explosion</i>	Documentary Short	Gina Mainwal	Seattle, WA
2:25 p.m.	<i>Buckethead and the Rapture</i>	Narrative Short	Matt Brownsword	Brighton, East Sussex/England
2:40 p.m.	<i>Sniper 470</i>	Narrative Short	Paul Holmes	Glasgow, Scotland
3:10 p.m.	<i>Birdy in the Cage</i>	Narrative Short	Greg Carlson	Fargo, ND
3:35 p.m.	<i>Downsizing</i>	Narrative Short	J. Brad Wilke	Tacoma, WA
4:00 p.m.	<i>Stocking Stuffers</i>	Narrative Short	Angel Connell	Westford, MA
4:05 p.m.	<i>Old Man Dies</i>	Narrative Short	Chris and Ben Blaine	Broomans Park, Hertfordshire/England
4:20 p.m.	<i>Maledetta Primavera</i>	Narrative Short	Craig Cobb	Long Island City, NY
4:40 p.m.	Creative Process 473	Best Narrative Short Comedy	Perry Grebin & Michael Nigro	New York, NY
5:30 - 6:45 p.m.	Opening Night Pre-Party at Monte's Downtown			
7:00 p.m.	Nancy Burggraf: Power and Stride	Documentary Feature [Ruth Landfield Award Winner]	Sarah McCurdy	Moorhead, MN
8:15 p.m.	Ice Cream Sundae	Best Narrative Short Drama	Desiree Nosbusch	Los Angeles, CA
8:30 p.m.	Searching for Wooden Watermelons	Narrative Feature [Ruth Landfield Award Winner]	Bryan Goldsworthy	Burbank, CA

Thursday, March 6th

	FILM	CATEGORY	DIRECTOR	CITY
8:30 a.m.	<i>Delafield</i>	Documentary Feature	Mark Brodin	Minneapolis, MN
9:45 a.m.	Intertwined	Best Documentary Short	Kate Oestreich	LaPorte, IN
10:15 a.m.	<i>Umatilla</i>	Documentary Feature	RJ McHatton	Bend, OR
12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m.	Luncheon at ^{The} Avalon Events Center – Kathleen Laughlin, Speaker and Matt Olien, Host			
1:45 p.m.	The Children Remember	Best Documentary Feature	Kathleen Laughlin	Minneapolis, MN
3:40 p.m.	<i>Inside Outside Lydia's Head</i>	Narrative Feature	Dominick Reyntiens	London, England
5:30 - 6:45 p.m.	Pre-Party at Juano's Restaurant			
7:15 p.m.	Two Summers	Best Narrative Feature	Bruce Lapointe	Westmount, Quebec/Canada
9:30 p.m.	<i>The Utopian Society</i>	Narrative Feature	John Aguirre	Aliso Viejo, CA

Friday, March 7th

	FILM	CATEGORY	DIRECTOR	CITY
8:30 a.m.	<i>Venice: Lost and Found</i>	Documentary Feature	Brad Bemis	Venice, CA
9:45 a.m.	<i>Fly</i>	Student	Jason Russell	El Cajon, CA
10:00 a.m.	<i>Low Grade Genius</i>	Student	Kyja Christianson	New York, NY
10:15 a.m.	<i>Der Seltsame Klang Der Stille</i>	Student	Marcel Baessler	Stuttgart, Germany
10:35 a.m.	<i>Think But This and All is Mended</i>	Student	Caity Birmingham	Fargo, ND
10:45 a.m.	<i>Orbital</i>	Student	Ryan Lanius	Dallas, TX
11:00 a.m.	<i>A Short Story</i>	Student	Daniel Dolentz	Moorhead, MN
11:15 a.m.	Ocha Cups for Christmas	Best Student Film	Michael Fimognari	Los Angeles, CA
8:00 - 11:30 a.m.	^{The} Avalon Events Center: Screening of other local and student films.			

	FILM/EVENT	CATEGORY	DIRECTOR	CITY
12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m.	Luncheon at ^{The} Avalon Events Center – Tania Blanch, Speaker and Merry Helm, Host			
1:45 p.m.	Opening Blessing			
2:00 p.m.	<i>Childhood Lost</i> – Na. Am. Voices	Documentary Feature	Doug Cuthand	Saskatoon, Saskatchewan/Canada
3:15 p.m.	<i>A Century of Genocide</i> – Na. Am. Voices	Documentary Short	Rosemary Gibbons	Seattle, WA
3:45 p.m.	<i>Alcatraz is Not an Island</i> – Na. Am. Voices	Documentary Feature	James Fortier	Pacifica, CA
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	^{The} Avalon Events Center: Showing of MSUM film, <i>Who Will Take Our Yaks?</i>			
5:30 - 6:45 p.m.	Pre-Party at ^{The} Avalon Events Center			
7:00 p.m.	<i>They Call Me Chief</i> – Na. Am. Voices	Best Documentary Feature	Don Marks	Winnipeg, Manitoba/Canada
8:00 p.m.	<i>American Holocaust</i> – Na. Am. Voices	Best Documentary Short	Joanelle Romero	Northridge, CA
8:40 p.m.	<i>Thorn Grass</i> – Na. Am. Voices	Best Narrative Short	D.R. Hammer	Boulder, CO
9:00 p.m.	<i>Fearsome</i>	Narrative Feature	Anghus Houvouras	Wilmington, NC
11:00 p.m.	<i>Between Resistance and Community</i>	Student	Jimmy Choi	Coram, NY
12:00 Midnight	<i>Existo</i>	Narrative Feature	Coke Sams	Nashville, TN
7:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.	^{The} Avalon Events Center: Screening of additional local, student and Native American films.			
8:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.	Post Party at ^{The} Spirit Room			

Saturday, March 8th

	FILM	CATEGORY	DIRECTOR	CITY
8:30 a.m.	<i>Ojibwemowin: Ojibwe Oral Tradition</i> – Na. Am. Voices	Documentary Feature	Lorraine Norrgard	Duluth, MN
9:45 a.m.	<i>Only the Devil Speaks Cree</i> – Na. Am. Voices	Documentary Short	Pamela Matthews	Toronto, Ontario/Canada
10:30 a.m.	<i>Redskins, Tricksters and Puppy Stew</i> – Na. Am. Voices	Documentary Feature	Drew Hayden Taylor	New York, NY
8:00 - 11:30 a.m.	^{The} Avalon Events Center: Screening of other local and student films.			
12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m.	Luncheon at ^{The} Avalon Events Center – Robert Cowgill, Speaker and Tony McRae, Host			
	FILM	CATEGORY	DIRECTOR	CITY
1:45 p.m.	<i>Ocha Cups for Christmas</i>	Best Student Film	Michael Fimognari	Los Angeles, CA
2:20 p.m.	<i>Intertwined</i>	Best Documentary Short	Kate Oestreich	LaPorte, IN
2:45 p.m.	<i>Saskatchewan</i>	Documentary Short	Brian Stockton	Toronto, Ontario/Canada
2:55 p.m.	<i>The Offering</i>	Narrative Short	Paul Lee	Toronto, Ontario/Canada
3:05 p.m.	<i>Suspension</i>	Narrative Short	Jon Novak	Minneapolis, MN
3:25 p.m.	<i>Hello Junkie</i>	Narrative Short	Graham Elwood	Van Nuys, CA
3:45 p.m.	<i>Blueberry</i>	Narrative Short	Brett Bell	Regina, Saskatchewan/Canada
4:05 p.m.	<i>The Least of These</i>	Narrative Short	Rik Swartzwelder	Silver Spring, MD
4:30 p.m.	<i>Creative Process 473</i>	Best Narrative Short Comedy	Perry Grebin & Michael Nigro	New York, NY
4:50 p.m.	<i>Ice Cream Sundae</i>	Best Narrative Short Drama	Desiree Nosbusch	Los Angeles, CA
5:30 - 6:45 p.m.	Pre-Party at the Plains Art Museum			
7:00 p.m.	Tribute to Ted Larson Award Winner – Janet Leigh			
8:00 p.m.	1960 Hitchcock Classic – <i>Psycho</i>			
10:00 p.m.	Audience Award and Post-Party at the Fargo Theatre			
12:00 Midnight	A Selection of Student Films			

Friday Afternoon – Native American Voices

1:45 p.m. Opening Blessing

2:00 p.m. **Childhood Lost**

Documentary Feature [Native American Voices] 53 min.
Directed by Doug Cuthand, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan/Canada
This film examines the experiences of four individuals who attended Canada's Indian residential schools. Each individual attended during a different period, one in the 1930s, another in the 1940s, 1960s and 1980s. While each attended boarding school during a different era, their experiences are remarkably similar.

3:15 p.m. **A Century of Genocide**

Documentary Short [Native American Voices] 18 min.
Directed by Rosemary Gibbons, Seattle, WA
A historical look at the systematic removal of aboriginal children from their families and communities. The film portrays how the children were institutionalized and susceptible to sexual abuse due to isolation from family and the lack of monitoring of pedophiles by their religious caretakers.

3:45 p.m. **Alcatraz is Not an Island**

Documentary Feature [Native American Voices] 56 min.
Directed by James Fortier, Pacifica, CA
This film reviews the Indian occupation of Alcatraz, the characters involved, and subsequent events related to the occupation.

2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Showing of MSUM film —

Who Will Take Our Yaks? at The Avalon Events Center

613 1st Avenue North • Fargo — Open discussion with student filmmakers.

5:30 - 6:45 p.m. Pre-Party at The Avalon Events Center

613 1st Avenue North • Fargo

Friday Evening Host — Prairie Rose & Troy Parkinson

7:00 p.m. **They Call Me Chief**

Best Documentary Feature [Native American Voices] 47 min.
Directed by Don Marks, Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada
This film showcases some of the many talented Native players in the National Hockey League. Through archival footage and interviews, the film leads viewers on a historical journey from the reserves to the NHL Hall of Fame.

8:00 p.m. **American Holocaust:
When it's All Over, I'll Still be Indian**

Best Documentary Short [Native American Voices] 30 min.
Directed by Joanelle Romero, Northridge, CA
This powerful, hard-hitting documentary reveals the link between Hitler's treatment of German Jews and the U.S. government's treatment of American Indians, depicts disturbing parallels between these two Holocausts and explores the historical, social and religious roots of America's own "ethnic cleansing."

8:40 p.m. **Thorn Grass**

Best Narrative Short [Native American Voices] 8 min.

Directed by D.R. Hammer, Boulder, CO

A transformative and healing meditation on the untimely death of a Two-Spirited youth, this film honors his spirit and the courage to live authentically. Thorn Grass is a work of creative fiction that is based on the life and death of Fred C. Martinez, Jr. who was killed in a hate crime in 2001 in Cortez, Colorado.



Thorn Grass

9:00 p.m. **Fearsome** Narrative Feature, 97 min.

Directed by Anghus Houvouras, Wilmington, NC

Years of defending wealthy, guilty clients have weighed heavily on his mind, and the pressure is too much to take. Marshall suffers a nervous breakdown and begins to lose his attachments to reality. He flashes back to his first major case, defending a serial killer who was executed for his heinous acts. Suddenly Marshall begins seeing visions of his dead client everywhere. At the same time, people associated with the same case start turning up dead. — DIRECTOR PRESENT



Fearsome

Fargo Film Festival Open House &

Opening Reception for
Paintings by Judith Hartwick
Titled
"Pale Figures and Silver Moons"

Friday, March 7 • 8:30 to 11:30 pm

SPIRIT ROOM

111 Broadway, Fargo
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8:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. Post Party at ^{The}Spirit Room • 111 Broadway • Fargo

11:00 p.m. ***Between Resistance and Community***

Student, 44 min. Directed by Jimmy Choi, Coram, NY
This documentary explores the Long Island do-it-yourself punk scene.

12:00 Midnight ***Existo***

Narrative Feature, 90 min. Directed by Coke Sams, Nashville, TN
America is on the brink of Civil War, her liberty and justice trampled beneath the wing tips of self-righteous right wing bigots. The latest culture wars have reduced moral questions to bumper stickers as corporate money infects everything in its relentless quest for a bigger bottom line. Against this backdrop, one man arises to fight for individual freedom, personal excess and artistic license.



Existo

Friday Evening - 7:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.

Screening of other Native American, local and student films
at ^{The}Avalon Events Center 613 1st Avenue North • Fargo

Saturday, March 8th

8:30 a.m. ***Ojibwemowin: Ojibwe Oral Tradition***

Documentary Feature [Native American Voices] 58 min.
Directed by Lorraine Norrgard, Duluth, MN
This documentary uses English subtitles and intimate interviews to explore the unique, indigenous Ojibwe language, which was near extinction and today is being revived by tribal members using a variety of methods. The Ojibwe, otherwise known as the Anishinaabe or Chippewa, are the second largest tribe in North America. Their language is sacred to them and helps define the tribe as a distinct, sovereign nation.



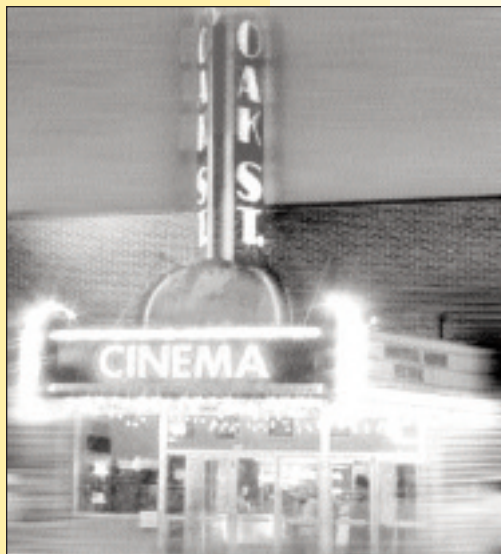
Ojibwemowin: Ojibwe Oral Tradition

9:45 a.m. ***Only the Devil Speaks Cree***

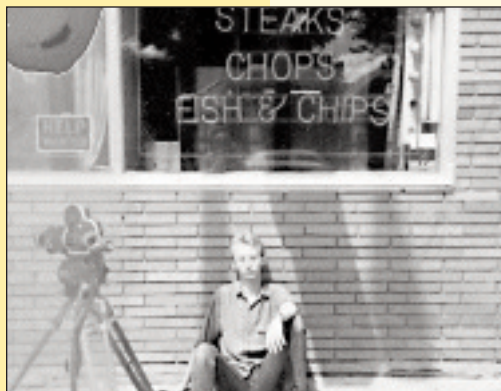
Documentary Short [Native American Voices] 32 min.
Directed by Pamela Matthews, Toronto, Ontario/Canada
The story of Sadie's struggle to overcome the harsh realities of residential school is based on a true story which started more than a century ago. Little Indian children were taken away from their homes, their families, their traditions, and locked away in residential schools far from home. This was an attempt to "educate the Indian out of them." In reality it was an education in abuse, intolerance and extreme loneliness.

10:30 a.m. ***Redskins, Tricksters and Puppy Stew***

Documentary Feature [Native American Voices] 55 min.
Directed by Drew Hayden Taylor, New York, NY
A tongue-in-cheek tour of complex issues such as Native identity, politics and racism, this film hilariously overturns the conventional notion of the "stoic Indian" and shines light on the over-looked element of Native culture—humor and its healing powers.



The Marquee of the Oak Street Cinema in Minneapolis



Saskatchewan



Suspension



Blueberry

8:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Screening of other local and student films at ^{The}Avalon Events Center

12:00 Noon - 1:30 p.m. • Saturday Luncheon

^{The}**Avalon Events Center • 613 1st Avenue North • Fargo**

Luncheon Speaker – Robert Cowgill, Executive Director

Oak Street Cinema, Minneapolis • Minneapolis/St. Paul International Film Festival

1:45 p.m. *Ocha Cups for Christmas*

Best Student Film, 30 min. Directed by Michael Fimognari, Los Angeles, CA
Synopsis on page 8

2:20 p.m. *Intertwined*

Bill Snyder Award for Best Documentary Short, 17 min.

Directed by Kate Oestreich, LaPorte, IN — *DIRECTOR PRESENT*
Synopsis on page 5

2:45 p.m. *Saskatchewan*

Documentary Short, 6 min.
Directed by Brian Stockton, Toronto, Ontario/Canada
Using home movies, vintage memorabilia and the straight facts about Saskatchewan, the filmmaker creates an eccentric portrait of the first year of his life, and the province that shaped his identity. — *DIRECTOR PRESENT*

2:55 p.m. *The Offering*

Narrative Short, 10 min. Directed by Paul Lee, Toronto, Ontario/Canada
The story centers on the evolution of love and friendship between a Japanese monk and the young novice who has come into his life, from their initial encounters to their final parting. — *DIRECTOR PRESENT*

3:05 p.m. *Suspension*

Narrative Short, 14 min. Directed by Jon Novak, Minneapolis, MN
A hitman demands a confession before performing an execution. Tied to a pile of cinderblocks at the end of a bridge, Emerson H. Long sits silent. This job may never end. — *DIRECTOR PRESENT*

3:25 p.m. *Hello Junkie*

Narrative Short, 13 min. Directed by Graham Elwood, Van Nuys, CA
This spoof of a 70s cop show portrays a police officer dealing with the loss of his partner. He deals with his anger and guilt in a variety of ways. He goes to counseling and recites poetry, but in the end he realizes that the best way to heal is to continue fighting for justice. The story comes complete with melodrama, slo-mo, bad hair and disco.

3:45 p.m. *Blueberry*

Narrative Short, 13 min.
Directed by Brett Bell, Regina, Saskatchewan/Canada
A woman drinks alone in a dingy bar while holding the photograph of a little boy. After pounding back several shots, she leaves and screams out of the city in her jet black CE66 Charger. Her destination: a desolate blueberry patch. From there, she will wander the prairie, baking pies and searching for one man – or boy – to bring him a message with a hint of lemon peel.

4:05 p.m. **The Least of These**

Narrative Short, 21 min. Directed by Rik Swartzwelder, Silver Spring, MD
It's the same old, same old at the local diner. Jim, the owner, hides in the kitchen. The regulars retread the old banter. And some new guy sits alone at the counter. Then, a simple idea shatters that dull routine. The same old, same old? Not tonight. Not ever again.

4:30 p.m. **Creative Process 473**

Best Narrative Short Comedy, 14 min.

Directed by Perry Grebin and Michael Nigro, New York, NY

Synopsis on page 3 — DIRECTOR/PRODUCER PRESENT

4:50 p.m. **Ice Cream Sundae**

Best Narrative Short Drama, 12 min.

Directed by Desiree Nosbusch, Los Angeles, CA – Synopsis on page 4

— PRODUCER PRESENT

5:30 - 6:45 p.m. **Pre-Party at the Plains Art Museum**

Memory Palaces of the Dakotas

A PHOTO EXHIBITION

BY TIM KENNEDY



Plains Art Museum Pre-Party attendees are invited to view the photo exhibit by Tim Kennedy on display at the Museum.

Saturday Evening Host – Doug Hamilton,
*Executive Director of University Advancement,
Minnesota State University Moorhead*

7:00 p.m. Tribute to Ted Larson and Award Winner
Janet Leigh Video Acceptance Speech

8:00 p.m. 1960 Hitchcock Classic – **Psycho**

10:00 p.m. Announcement of Audience Award Winner

10:15 p.m. **Post Party at the Fargo Theatre**

12:00 Midnight A Selection of Student Films



The Least of These



Psycho



TED LARSON (1940-2000) is best known for his presentations of classical film, seminars and movie series events at colleges, theatres and arts centers throughout the region. He was named Distinguished Alumnus of Minnesota State University Moorhead (MSUM) in 1998 for contributions to students and film studies.

A Glyndon, Minnesota native, Larson graduated from MSUM in 1962 with speech/theatre and English degrees and taught at Benjamin Franklin Junior High School in Fargo for six years. He then joined the speech and theatre arts faculty at MSUM, where he taught for 32 years. He directed MSUM's International Film Festival and Summer Cinema Film Series for more than 20 years. He also held a master's degree in speech and drama from the University of Kansas.

A long-time member of the Fargo Theatre's board of directors, he was one of the initiators and co-producers of its Silent Movie Night, which began in 1974. He also collaborated with symphonies in Butte and Billings, Montana, as a guest scholar. Most recently, and up until his death, Ted was extensively involved in planning for the first ever Fargo Film Festival.

THE FARGO FILM FESTIVAL
HONORS THE LIFE AND WORK OF

Ted M. Larson

Through his work in locating, restoring and reconstructing lost and rare films, Ted and his longtime collaborator and friend, Rusty Casselton, have made donations of valuable motion pictures to The Library of Congress, The George Eastman House, The UCLA film and Television Archive and The Museum of Modern Art. Until his death he also administered the Colleen Moore Film Grant program at MSUM, which funds projects for student filmmakers. He and Rusty have also provided Kevin Brownlow, British film documentarian, with rare film footage for his television productions *Universal Horror* and *Lon Chaney*.

Among his many achievements, Larson has helped a number of talented young filmmakers develop careers. His former students have worked with the likes of Steven Spielberg, David Letterman and George Lucas.

Ted was a unique presence who impacted constituencies, institutions and audiences throughout the United States. We are deeply saddened by his death and acutely aware that Ted Larson is indeed irreplaceable.

THE 2003 TED M. LARSON AWARD
FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION
TO THE FILM INDUSTRY GOES TO

Janet Leigh



Born Jeanette Helen Morrison in Merced, CA on July 6, Janet Leigh is one of the best loved actresses in Hollywood. Janet has authored three books in addition to her lengthy career as an actress appearing in such film favorites as *Little Women*, *My Sister Eileen*, *Prince Valiant*, *Touch of Evil*, *Scaramouche*, *The Vikings*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *The Manchurian Candidate*, and of course, *Psycho*.

Janet graced the city of Fargo and the Fargo Theatre stage and screen in March of 2000 in conjunction with the theatre's week long Library of Congress Film Preservation Tour. Janet was and continues to be a timeless champion of film preservation.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE
Fargo Film Festival Journey Fund

Providing travel stipends for deserving filmmakers attending the festival



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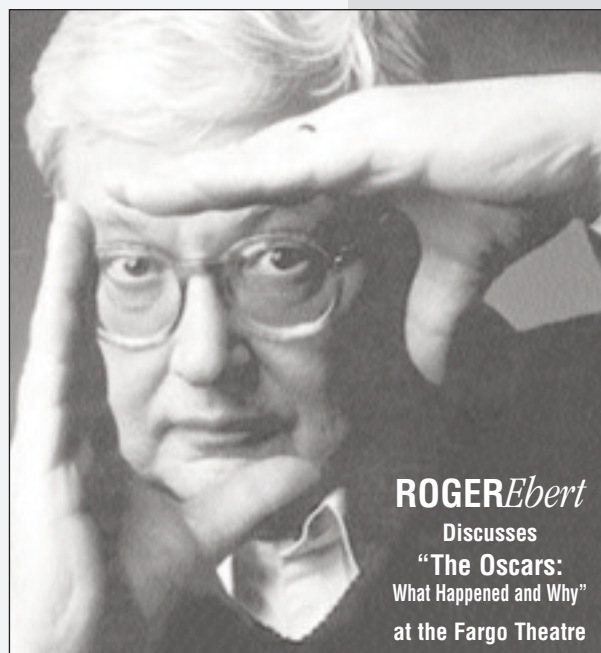
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ROGER Ebert

Discusses

"The Oscars:
What Happened and Why"

at the Fargo Theatre

Friday, April 4, 2003 at 7:30 p.m

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The Fargo Film Festival is exceedingly grateful for the generous support from the following organizations who believed in our concept enough to join us in our third year.



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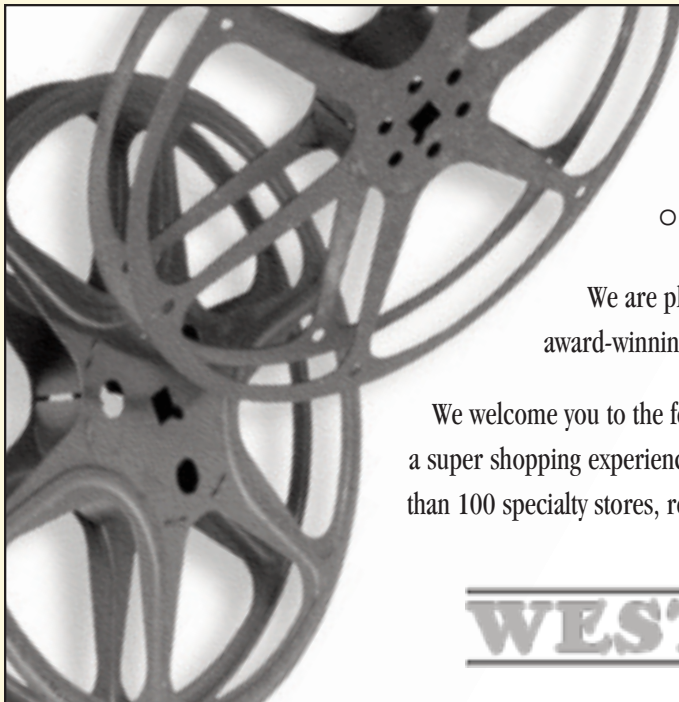
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of Fargo-Moorhead

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West Acres Development is proud
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award-winning films by independent film makers to our community.

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Schedule for Second Venue — *The Avalon Events Center*

SHOWCASE AND WORKSHOP FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL FILMS • 613 1ST AVENUE NORTH • FARGO

Friday Morning (8:20 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.)

FILM/EVENT	CATEGORY	DIRECTOR	CITY
8:20 a.m. <i>Vengeance of the Sorceress</i>	Narrative Feature	Christopher P. Jacobs	Grand Forks, ND
10:00 a.m. <i>The Making of Van Hook</i>	Documentary Short	Dusty Bias	Minot, ND
10:25 a.m. <i>The Fittest</i>	Narrative Short	Martin Jonason	Fargo, ND
10:45 a.m. <i>Mean</i>	Narrative Feature	Charles H. Hinton	Fargo, ND

Friday Afternoon (2 p.m. - 4 p.m.)

FILM/EVENT	CATEGORY	DIRECTOR	CITY
2:00 p.m. <i>Who Will Take Our Yaks?</i>	Student Film	MSUM film students	Moorhead, MN

Produced by the advanced 16mm filmmaking students at Minnesota State University Moorhead in the fall semester of 2002, *Who Will Take Our Yaks?* is an ambitious, comic exploration of the Seven Deadly Sins, as experienced by a diverse set of barflies gathered at their favorite watering hole. Witty and imaginative, *Who Will Take Our Yaks?* represents the original voices of seventeen promising filmmakers, coming together to tell one tale with many twists.

Followed by open discussion with student filmmakers and Tania Blanich.

Friday Evening (7:15 p.m. - 12:00 Midnight)

FILM/EVENT	CATEGORY	DIRECTOR	CITY
7:15 p.m. <i>Shades in Between</i>	Student Film	Fyl Orbus	Moorhead, MN
7:55 p.m. <i>Bohimbled</i>	Narrative Feature	Philip Kerr	Fargo, ND
8:40 p.m. <i>We are All Related</i>	Native American Voices	Lorraine Norrgard	Duluth, MN
9:45 p.m. <i>How to: Live</i>	Animation	Brandon Marback	Moorhead, MN
10:00 p.m. <i>Hollywood Nocturne</i>	Narrative Feature	Tony Tilton	Fargo, ND

Saturday Morning (8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.)

FILM/EVENT	CATEGORY	DIRECTOR	CITY
8:30 a.m. <i>Made You Look</i>	Student Film	Anthony Bergman	Fargo, ND
8:45 a.m. <i>An Empty Life</i>	Student Film	Narendra Ghimire	Moorhead, MN
9:00 a.m. <i>Mind's Eye</i>	Student Film	Cole Throntveix	Moorhead, MN
9:20 a.m. <i>To Have and To Hold</i>	Student Film	Dan Hovland	Moorhead, MN
9:45 a.m. <i>Spy Movie</i>	Student Film	Amy Anderson	Fargo, ND
10:00 a.m. <i>Fargo Street Hawks</i>	Student Film	Kyja Christianson	New York, NY
10:05 a.m. <i>Rubbed Out</i>	Narrative Feature	Terence Brown II	Fargo, ND

Special Thanks to Our Festival Friends:

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