

Filmmakers ready to converge on the 15th Annual Gimli Film Festival

(Winnipeg, Manitoba; July 14, 2015) – This year’s Gimli Film Festival will play host to an exciting myriad of filmmakers, who originate from across Canada and right here in our own backyard. GFF welcomes the following special guests, among others.



Oscar-nominated, Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Sturla Gunnarsson (born in Iceland, now residing in Toronto) is the director of ‘Monsoon’, a feature documentary that’s been described as “Part road movie, part spectacle, part drama”. Filmed over the course of India’s 2013 monsoon season in ultra high definition 4K, the filmmakers followed the monsoon on its annual journey from the southern state of Kerala, where it first makes landfall, to India's north-eastern state of Meghalaya, where the clouds go to die—along the way, documenting a remarkable group of individuals whose lives are intricately entwined with the monsoon, or ‘soul of India’.

GFF Alumni Kyle Thomas of Calgary (kyle.tho@gmail.com) paints an intimate portrait of life on the Alberta Badlands in his first feature film, “The Valley Below”. Thomas’ film is divided into four self-contained vignettes, depicting the private lives and longings of four different Drumheller residents over the course of a year. Thomas was a 2014 recipient of the prestigious Lieutenant Governor General of Alberta Arts Award, and has produced a range of award-winning short films since 2011.



Vancouver director-producer Catharine Parke’s (cp@curiouscatproductions.ca) Canadian Short film "Very Good Dirt" is a haunting documentary about the western Manitoba ghost town of McConnell. Parke’s study of one town’s rich history transformed to its present day solitude, has been acclaimed by festivals in Edmonton, Vancouver, Fargo, N.D., Victoria, Colorado, Italy, Sweden, and most recently the 2014 Cannes Film Festival.

MANITOBA FILMMAKERS:

From our own province, the following filmmakers will be attending this year’s festival.

- Stéphane Oystryk (soystryk@hotmail.com) director of the French feature film "FM Youth", set in St. Boniface and examining the realities of two friends who choose to leave a close-knit francophone community for the metropolis of Montreal.

- Danielle Sturk (dsturk@mymts.net) director of feature doc "A Good Madness: The Dance of Rachel Brown", a documentary which focuses on the lifelong obsession the founder of Canada's oldest professional modern dance company.

- Adam Brooks (acbrooks79@gmail.com) a member of Winnipeg-based film collective Astron 6, and director of "*The Editor*", a slasher horror film made in the tradition of the Italian Giallo style. "*The Editor*" will be enjoying its Manitoba premiere at GFF on Thursday, July 23.

LOCAL DOCUMENTARY AND SHORT FILMMAKERS:

Home-grown talent is plentiful at this year's GFF, with the following filmmakers forming part of a substantial local filmmaking contingent who will be attending the Festival.

- Kevin Nikkel (kevin@fivedoorfilms.com) director of the short doc "Adventures with the Movie Club" and GFF alumni last year with his feature film "On the Trail of the Far Fur Country".

- Aaron Floresco (aaron.floresco@gmail.com) director of feature doc "One Gay City" and the short doc "Fred's Heads".

- Jaimz Asmundson (rory.fallis@gmail.com) director of the experimental short film "Echoes".

For a special musical enhancement to the Friday, July 24 screening of the short film "Home-Cooked Music", Winnipeg filmmaker Mike Maryniuk and his documentary subject Lorne Collie of the Interlake will be on hand for a Q&A, followed by an impromptu jam session using many of the unique household instruments featured in Maryniuk's film.

The full 2015 Gimli Film Festival Schedule is available online at www.gimlifilm.com or on the GFF APP.

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For more information, contact Marlene Ness - Gimli Film Festival Communications Coordinator

Mobile: (204) 971-0039

Phone: (204) 642-8846 (Festival Office)

Email: media@gimlifilm.com

Website: www.gimlifilm.com

GIMLI FILM FESTIVAL, Suite 101 - 94 1st Ave. Waterfront Centre, Gimli, Manitoba R0C 1B0

"See you under the stars July 22-26, 2015 for the 15th edition of GFF!"

**** Are you media planning to attend our Festival? ** Please fill out an online media accreditation form at <http://ow.ly/PB511>**

Visit www.gimlifilm.com for the most up-to-date information on everything about the Festival! Our shiny new GFF APP is live, powered by Insurance Brokers of Manitoba.

-Like us on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/gimlifilmfestival>

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The GFF is proud to acknowledge the cooperation and generous financial support of the following sponsors, whose enthusiastic support has made the 2015 Gimli Film Festival possible:

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