

Shining a spotlight on Manitoba Filmmakers at 15th Annual Gimli Film Festival

(Winnipeg, Manitoba; July 9, 2015) – Manitoba filmmakers will be one of the Festival’s most captivating and diverse attractions at this year’s Gimli Film Festival, taking place on July 22-26.

MANITOBA FEATURE FILMS:

This year GFF is proud to be screening three local feature films.



The passion of dance is examined in the film ***A Good Madness: The Dance of Rachel Browne***, by local filmmaker Danielle Sturk who is a seasonal resident of Willow Island near Gimli. Sturk’s documentary focuses on the lifelong obsession of Rachel Browne (1934-2012), founder of Canada’s oldest professional modern dance company, Winnipeg’s Contemporary Dancers. This thoughtful documentary exposes

Rachel Browne’s unwavering desire to create dance to the exclusion of all else.



In ***The Editor***, a slasher horror film made by local Winnipeg-based film collective Astron 6, a once-prolific film editor with four wooden fingers on his right hand finds himself the prime suspect in a series of murders haunting a seedy 1970s film studio. An absurdist throwback to the Italian Giallo, *The Editor* been

described as “loud and proud and gloriously silly” by Stephen Dalton of The Hollywood Reporter. *The Editor* will enjoy its Manitoba Premiere on Thursday, July 23 at the Late Night Movie, Pizza & Beer night in Johnson Hall (having had its world premiere at TIFF in 2014).



FM Youth is a French language film set in St. Boniface, by local filmmaker Stéphane Ostryk. This film takes a candid look at what it is like to be young and French in English Canada, as three Franco-Manitoban friends, Natasha, Charlotte and Alexis, hang out one last night before Natasha and Charlotte leave their tight knit francophone community of St. Boniface for the idealized metropolis of Montréal.

On Friday, July 24, ***Home Cooked Music*** –a short film by local filmmaker Mike Maryniuk which centers on Lorne Collie, a man from the Interlake region who turns everyday household objects into instruments—will be capped off by a special, musical concoction. Vancouver director Catherine Parke, Winnipeg filmmaker Mike Maryniuk and documentary subject Lorne Collie will be on hand for a Q&A, followed by an impromptu jam session using many of the unique household instruments featured in the film.

MANITOBA SHORT FILMS:

The Gimli Film Festival is delighted to feature ten, compelling Manitoban short films this year in contention for the Manitoba Film & Music Audience Choice Manitoba Short Film Award, including:

- *Echoes* by Jaimz Asmundson
- *A La Commode* by Rory Fallis
- *Fred Heads* by Aaron Floresco
- *Loss of Contact* by BJ Verot and Brad Crawford
- *Period Piece* by James McLellan
- *Rinse* by Scott Anderson, Trevor Hnatowich, and Cleo Leslie
- *Promise* by Dion Telesky
- *Square* by Michelle Elrick
- *Construction* by Alison James
- *Walter* by Curtis L. Wiebe

Also screening is the world premiere of *Crash Site*, by Sonya H. Ballantyne, winner of the 2014 RBC \$10,000 Emerging Filmmaker's Competition.

MTS TV STORIES FROM HOME:

This series of eight home-grown documentaries were proudly commissioned and produced through *MTS TV Stories from Home*. The films are all intensely local in flavour, created by Manitoba filmmakers with a wide range of experience including students and first time producers. This selection provides local perspectives that can't be found anywhere else.

- *That Mennonite Joke* by Orlando Braun and Jorge Requena, who won the MTS Stories From Home \$20,000 Pitch at GFF 2014
- *Andrew Milne Dreams of Machines* by GFF alumni Patrick Lowe, which recently won best documentary at Los Angeles Independent Film Festival
- *Adventures with the Movie Club* by GFF alumni Kevin Nikkel
- *Some Lots* by Lorne Bailey
- *One Gay City: A History of LGBT Life in Winnipeg* by Aaron Floresco
- *Eric. One Busker's Vision of Success* by Amy Simoes

- ***Brown Town Muddy Water*** by Jesse Green
- ***A Good Madness: The Dance of Rachel Browne*** by Danielle Sturk

Film Programmer Aaron Zeghers commented that 2015 was a year that saw a great variety of Manitoban work submitted to the Gimli Film Festival, truly showcasing the talent, creativity and scope of filmmakers from across our province.

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

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

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.

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