SAN DIEGO UNDERGROUND FILM FESTIVAL

SAN DIEGO'S ONLY AVANT-GARDE FILM FESTIVAL

SATURDAY
OCTOBER
3
2015

SAN DIEGO &
WORLD PREMIERS

GENERAL
ADMISSION
$5.00

SAN DIEGO, CA, USA

- Letter from the Directors -

Thank you for coming out to the first annual San Diego Underground Film Festival!

We have worked very hard on it and haven't slept for months. We both work full time jobs and we both make our own films and video pieces. This festival has been put together during those late hours most people use to wind down - those "Netflix and chill" moments or those times when you stay awake cruising through Facebook or Tumblr. We didn't get to have those times because we were working hard to organize SDUFF - No money, no resources, no man power... Just an idea pushed forward by strong-willed, bold, and stubborn desire. I mention this because the types of films we are showing tonight and the types of films we hope to screen in the future, are made up of that exact same stubborn effort - a whole bunch of sleepless nights filled with self doubt and a pantry filled with rice and canned beans. These filmmakers you will see tonight toiled away, often alone, trying to create something genuine. We think they succeeded.

Watch and find out for yourself.

- Ryan and Rachel

- Program Overview -

- SCRYING -
5:15 PM
56:00 minutes

- CARTOMANCY -
6:25 PM
78:00 minutes

- LITHOMANCY -
8:00 PM
48:00 minutes

Catering
by
RANCHOS COCINA
(Available from 8:00PM - 9:00PM)

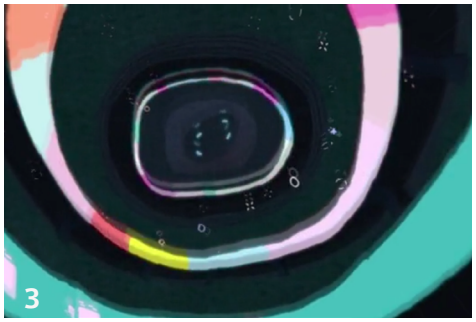
- *CHEIROMANCY* -
9:15 PM
68:00 minutes

- TASSEOMANCY -
10:30 PM
78:00 minutes

- PYROMANCY -
12:00 AM
49:00 minutes

Filmmaker interviews to follow each section

- Scrying -



1. *Welcome* 2. *Ham Over Rice* 3. *Sunken Treasure* 4. *Lightbox: Grey*

Welcome | Rachel Ho

1:00 | USA | 2013 | San Diego Premier | http://www.rachelruizhen.com/

Welcome is a greeting of constant revealing, going from one mood to the next with the sensation of having passed through different rooms. It explores the expressiveness of objects through surges and gyrating motions. The stage was set with people activating sculptures, and the movement then filling space.

Ham Over Rice | Ying Liu

4:00 | USA | 2014 | Southern California Premier

Rapidly moving through a series of associative images, visual puns and plays on words, *HAM OVER RICE* combines live action, animation, pictorial text, narration and sound to play off of the Chinese myth of the god Houyi, an archer who saves the world but loses his immortality.

Sunken Treasure | Michael Nason & Carolina Charry

9:00 | USA | 2014 | California Premier

An Exquisite corpse poem. A Postmodern ode to love and creativity. Filmed in Chilmark, MA.

SPORTS | Brian Smee

2:30 | USA | 2014 | San Diego Premier | http://briansmee.biz/

24.09.2154: Observe the conclusion to today's marathon.

Lightbox: Grey | Philip Evans

9:00 | Sweden | 2015 | USA Premier | https://vimeo.com/philevans

Lightbox: Grey was shot on Super 8 during London based Grey skate magazine's trip to Malmö. The footage was then animated hand animated over by London bsed illustrator Mike O'Shea. The film features the skateboarding of Darius Trabalza, Jak Pietryga, Jeremy Jones, Joe Gavin, John Bell, Joe Gavin and Luka Pinto and an original soundtrack by Irish producer, Gibbo.

- Scrying -

Hopkins & Delaney, LLC | Sean Buckelew

4:32 | USA | 2014 | San Diego Premier | http://www.seanbuckelew.com/info.html

An important client visits the law offices of Hopkins & Delaney, LLP to discuss his copyright infringement suit. This short animation explores the day to day goings on of a fictional law office handling a copyright infringement case, from inane chatter to texting on the toilet. It attempts to take an objective look at the ubiquity of technology in modern life, and its impact on social culture.

nationtime | Christine Lucy Latimer

1:40 | Canada | 2015 | California Premier | http://christinelucylatimer.tumblr.com/

Cell-phone video footage of exploding fireworks is processed and extended through a series of VHS feedback loops. What was once a momentary blast becomes drawn out in time, emphasizing the beauty of pyrotechnic light, while juxtaposing analog and digital video artifacts.

Effigy in Emulsion | Karissa Hahn

3:10 | USA | 2015 | California Premier | http://www.karissahahn.com/

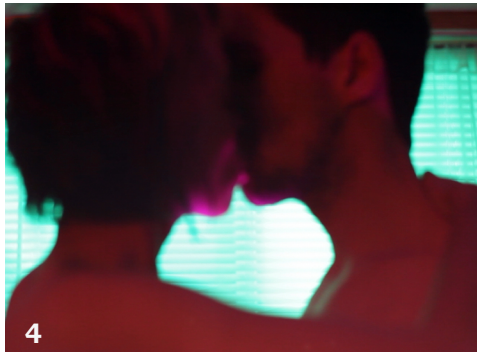
8mm found footage is taped to 16mm clear leader and re-filmed on the Optical Printer.
An artifact from an occasion is examined. A photographer stole a frame of my stolen film! What could be uncovered in this washed out frame? A study in exposure change to uncover/un-develop a memory.

You and I Remain | Kate McCabe

14:58 | USA | 2015 | San Diego Premier

In this portrait of a world askew, filmmaker McCabe composes an apocalyptic lullaby, a landscape film meditating on the end of the world and subtly the end of film as a medium. Inspired by the questions of the Anthropocene and the Fukushima disaster, the film provides a canvas of empty and beautiful spaces shot at the Salton Sea, Big Sur and Joshua Tree, combined with narration about the benefits of radiation and a plea to the viewer to preserve the message for the future. Sound design by Jason Payne of Nitzer Ebb.

1. *Hopkins & Delaney, LLC* 2. *nationtime* 3. *Effigy in Emulsion* 4. *You and I Remain*



1. *Man and the Smells* 2. *Sonnet 404* 3. *DICK BINGE* 4. *Loveslck* 5. *Creeps and Ghouls*

Man and the Smells | Sofia Canales

1:00 | USA | 2015 | World Premier | https://vimeo.com/user14495942

A (very) short rockumentary about a band called Man and the Smells.

Sonnet 404...loading... ... | Dustin Zemel

5:00 | USA | 2014 | California Premier | http://www.dustinzemel.com/

Sonnet 404 conveys personal frustrations of compelled poetics; an attempt to process the ill-fated romantic prospect of articulating deep emotion's confounding ineffability.

Creeps & Ghouls | Samuel Hinsvark

27:16 | USA | 2014 | World Premier | https://vimeo.com/shinsvark/videos

What do you do on Halloween when you're too old to Trick 'r Treat and too young to do anything else? Young people search for the magic of a night that isn't wrapped up, bite size and waiting on a stranger's porch anymore and try not to let their youth go to waste.

- Cartomancy -

DICK BINGE | Samuel Shanahoy

3:00 | USA | 2012 | California Premier | http://samuelshanahoy.com/

Dick Binge is a 4 piece spunk band from Olympia, WA. Formed in early 2012 out of the necessity to amplify queer and trans* voices in the hardcore punk scene and to have a gay ol' time doing it. *Dick Binge* is about shameless flamboyance, critical analysis, and fierce action. From circle pits to circle jerks, *Dick Binge* blows your perception of what the boys' club is really all about...

Loveslck | Bradan Herrera & Maggie Levin

13:29 | USA | 2014 | San Diego Premier | https://www.facebook.com/lovesickfilmofficial

Two (literally) brokenhearted people find true love at an icky hipster house party.

I Was Never Good At Parties | Trish Stone

2:00 | USA | 2015 | San Diego Premier | http://www.trishstone.com/index.html

I Was Never Good At Parties is a short video by Trish Stone. It was filmed using a balloon drone, a weather balloon with a video camera attached to it. It was filmed at A Ship In The Woods in 2015. Thanks to curator Lianne Mueller and assistance from Liz Stringer.

Lollipopper | Sofia Canales

12:05 | USA | 2013 | World Premier | https://vimeo.com/user14495942

A young boy skates home after his shift at a factory and finds his mother home alone. It seems his sister hasn't been home for a while and the mother is worried that something has happened. She sends the boy to look for his sister, but the young boy assumes his sister is gone for a good reason. Still, he obeys his mother and goes out to look for her.

I thought you might want to see the sunset. | Matthew Taylor Blais

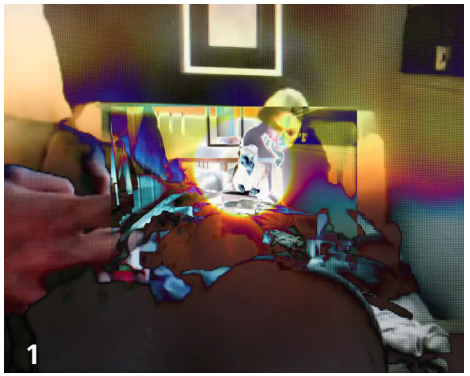
5:00 | Canada | 2015 | USA Premier | https://vimeo.com/user9146773

the use of consumer level digital equipment lends an immediacy to the images, one steeped in youth. images that are at once crude, very beautiful, and exhilarating. images with a sole focus on ideas or moments and the form of the film itself (as a memory). because at its core it is about being present, it is about thought, it is a feeling. united by an expression and tone rather than exact aesthetic similarities or a constant geography. as well as having fun while making it.

CIRCLE | Daewon Kim

6:10 | USA | 2015 | California Premier

Our world's shape is circle and all organic shapes are circle, too. But people begin to make square like house, window, book, picture, TV, Phone, ETC. And these squares try to make people square.



1. *I thought you might want to see the sunset.* 2. *Lollipopper*

- Cartomancy-

Normal | William Westley

5:35 | USA | 2015 | California Premier | http://polaroidsf.com/

In 1997, when I was 15, my friend Kim and I decided to make a documentary. We wanted to record this important time in our lives, even though nothing exciting ever happened in Sterling Heights, MI. We videotaped for over three years, essentially cataloging our entire high school experience. But when school ended and we went our separate ways, our tapes ended up in boxes gathering dust. Our documentary never got to see the light of day. Eighteen years later I decided to revisit this footage and find out just what was on our videotapes.

UNICORN | Grace Nayoon Rhee

1:22 | USA | 2013 | San Diego Premier | https://vimeo.com/nayoon1212

GIRL and BOY meet little strangers.

DRUID UNDERGROUND Intermission | Billy Burgess & Max Winston

2:00 | USA | 2015 | San Diego Premier | http://www.druidundergroundfilmfestival.com/

Cruise into the drive-in theater and catch a flick with your main squeeze. Then dig this wild INTERMISSION short that'll have you tearing your eyeballs out in style.

- Lithomancy -

1. *Field Notes* 2. *Journey to the Shirakawa Sosui* 3. *Tom & Jerry* 4. *Under the Heat Lamp*

A Journey to the Shirakawa Sosui | Michael Lyons

4:00 | Japan | 2014 | California Premier

A stop motion super 8 document of a walk to the Shirakawa canal in Kyoto during the cherry blossom season. The soundtrack was created using an original apparatus called 'The Octopus'. Voltages from light sensors on the projection screen control an analogue modular synthesizer. The film itself acts as a score.

Tom & Jerry | Ekkaphob Sumsiripong

5:20 | Thailand | 2014 | Southern California Premier | http://youlooklikeyourdrawing.com/

Living the fleeting moments without a past and a future, frame by frame, second by second, we long for a ghost we were back in the moment, we chase the shadows that could never be captured.

Field Notes | Vashti Harrison

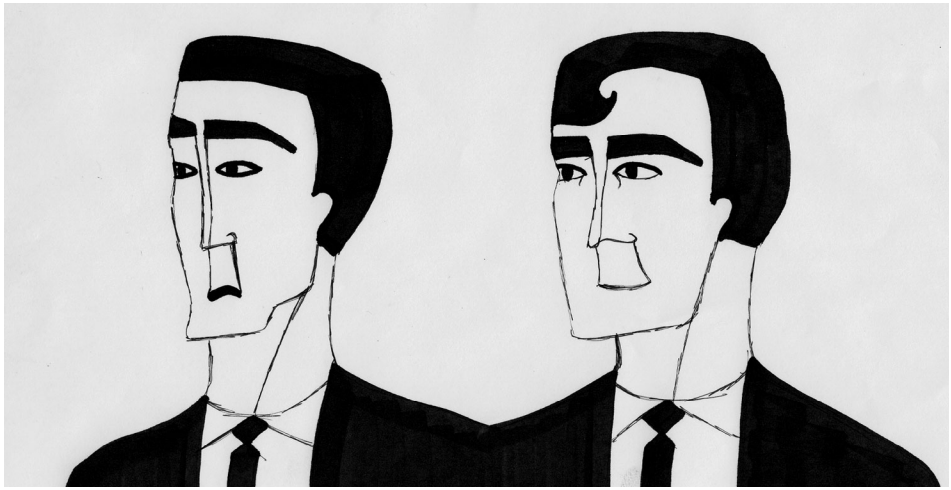
17:34 | USA/Trinidad and Tobago | 2014 | California Premier | http://www.vashtiharrison.com/

Field Notes is an experimental portrait of the ghosts embedded in the culture of the island nation of Trinidad and Tobago. The film is structured as a visual and aural field guide to the ghosts spirits and jumbies througout the island: from personal tales about shapeshifters and bloodsuckers, to the ghosts of Trinidads past. The film focuses on the places where the natural and supernatural collide.

Under the Heat Lamp An Opening | Zachary Epcar

10:12 | USA/Spain | 2014 | San Diego Premier | http://www.zacharyepcar.com/

An expanded view of the lunch crowd at an open-air restaurant, from a bird's-eye of the exterior to the depths of the interior.



TRUSTS & ESTATES | Jeanette Bonds

4:54 | USA | 2013 | San Diego Premier | http://jeanettebonds.com/

Trusts & Estates is a hand-drawn animated documentary satire adapted from a conversation overheard in a Santa Monica restaurant in 2011. Four lawyers engage in a bantering dinner conversation that quickly devolves into a grotesque and brutal comedy of cruelty and hypocrisy.

Growing Up Death Star | Michael Trigilio

18:00 | USA | 2015 | World Premier | http://www.starve.org/index.html

A *Star Wars* super-fan/podcaster is faced with surprise information about a special person from his past. As he confronts his discomfort with mortality, he must also deal with the way nostalgia has taken over his daily life.

- Cheiromancy -

It Ain't Necessarily So | Masahiko Fox

34:00 | USA/Japan | 2015 | World Premier

It ain't necessarily about a Japanese woman tryin' to sing Gershwin's "I Loves You Porgy", or about her two teachers tryin' to teach it. But it ain't necessarily NOT about those things, either.

RELAY | Steve Cossman

11:00 | USA/Germany | 2014 | California Premier | http://mononoawarefilm.com/

An observational document of the visual environment created by artist Ei Wada (Sony Music, Japan). Wada-san re-wires Braun-tubed TVs to function similar to a theremin. Performing in the dark, he creates a unique audio/visual experience using broadcast signal and VHS cassette tapes with distorted image output to control frequency. Playing multiple televisions like a drum-set, he uses his own hands to control amplitude. I conducted an interview with Wada-san and filmed two performances; one in Germany, the other in Japan. Based on our conversations, I created this short piece that emphasized his grassroots approach to instrument making and reflected his own concepts about performance as art. This film was shot entirely on Super 8mm film, hand processed and transferred to DV with recorded sound performance in Osnebruck, Germany and Tokyo, Japan.

Instructions for Staring in the Mirror | Edgar Jorge-Barait

23:00 | USA | 2014 | World Premier | https://vimeo.com/edgarjorgebaralt

I travel through a specific landscape, Southern California, where memories of my home country, Venezuela, come to life. Uncannily, the journeys of my adulthood speak of the ones from my early years. Certain geographical similarities provide links to remembrances of family, loss, fear and coping. And at the heart of it, my parents, who recall their youth and the passions of their generation.

Desert Miracles | Miriam Gossing & Lina Siekmann

11:40 | USA/Germany | 2015 | California Premier |

Desert Miracles is a cinematic exploration of a commercialized architecture of desire. Across 22 different tableaus the film meditates upon the interiors of Nevada's wedding chapels, considering how the excessive scenery opens up to constitute a cultural organisation of "Love". A woman's voice is heard reading out an ambiguous letter to an unknown lover in which she finds herself troubled by the challenges of modern relationships, unable to negotiate a balance between self-fulfilment and optimization.The text is based on anonymous posts by different women in various internet wedding forums. One fictional female character is composed out of many assembled perspectives on desire, relationships and social expectation.

R_pour ne pas céder d'un pouce | Ann-Marie Bouchard

10:00 | Canada | 2014 | California Premier | https://vimeo.com/user9146773

Children explain what resistance means to them. A roller derby team trains. An icebreaker confronts the frozen Saint Lawrence. The film is animated, scratched and damaged. Communication is disturbed by VHS tracking. Bureaucrats wait for the bus. Rush hour traffic devours its share of humans. To resist is also to use different means of narration, rather than exact aesthetic similarities or a constant geography. as well as having fun while making it.

- Tasseomancy -

Remembering the Pentagons | Azadeh Navai

23:00 | Iran/USA | 2015 | World Premier | https://vimeo.com/user6220362

Remembering the Pentagons is a slow, rhythmic journey into filmmaker Azadeh Navai's earliest childhood memories. With an old 16mm Bolex and a hand-made pinhole camera, Navai returns to Iran, where the recollections of places, emotions, and scents serve as vehicles through which she exposes a deeply personal landscape. Her camera, gliding through mosques and the heady wares of a bazaar, provides grounding to narrative themes of childhood wonder and familial tragedy. But, as in memory, there is trouble in the image.

Night Noon | Shambhavi Kaul

12:00 | Mexico/USA | 2014 | Southern California Premier | http://shambhavikaul.com/open/bridge_2014.html

Unmoving rock collapsed to ocean—geology's "thrust and fold"—becomes the unlikely habitat for two actors' shadowy encounters with sand, waves, night, desert, dread, calm, trepidation and escape. "Shambhavi Kaul's *Night Noon* sets up dialectical dread in Death Valley with a series of uncanny shots of eroded, geological formations and dunes that seemingly fold into night skies and shimmering waters. Beginning in Zabriskie Point, the film surreptitiously crosses over into Mexico, its creative geography never far from our cinematic memory." - Andréa Picard

- Pyromancy -

RGBW

Reflect

RGBW | Stephan Quinlan

16:30 | USA | 2013 | California Premier | http://www.stephenpquinlan.com/

An absurdist collage film on dreaming. VHS footage is stripped down to its own "basic elements" and used as a psychic tripper to represent the reluctantly fading memory of New-Age spirituality.

Reflect | Jeremy Cole

3:30 | USA | 2015 | World Premier

Reflect is an experimental self portrait film by artist Jeremy Cole. Music composed by Michael Dee Chavez.

My Johnny | Vincent De Ghoulie

29:56| USA | 2014 | San Diego Premier | http://studioghoulie.com/

A psychedelic suspender snapping haunted hayride through the consciousness of the wild and wooly relationships between a mother, her angry son, that angry son's boyfriend hungry babysitter, and the kid's 2 fathers.

Words From A Silence | Penda Diakite

6:00 | USA | 2014 | San Diego Premier | http://pendadiakite.webstarts.com/index.html

This short film is a montage of my thoughts, feelings, and experiences as a bi-cultural female of color.

Luminous Echoes | Chelsey Lorae

15:23 | USA | 2015 | World Premier

Shot entirely inside a Los Angeles residence, *Luminous Echoes* creates an abstract experience of sights and sounds in a city dwelling.

SAN DIEGO
UNDERGROUND
FILM FESTIVAL

Saturday, October 3, 2015
San Diego, CA, USA

Festival Staff

Festival Director/Curator
Ryan Betschart

Festival Director/Graphic Designer
Rachel Nakawatase

Venue

UltraStar Cinema
Hazard Center
7510 Hazard Center Dr.
San Diego, CA 92108
Theater #2

Admission

Admission to screening is $5 both in advanced and at the door. Seating is limited and is first come, first serve. Doors open 30 minutes prior to the screening.

Special Thanks to

Cindy Betschart, Chris Bestchart, Tyler Betschart, Toby, Robert Nakawatase, Robert Nakawatase Jr., Karl Miller, Maribel Miller, James Miller, Lamby & Seal Michael Trigilio, Ranchos Cocina, Glenn Heath Jr. and the San Diego City Beat, Anders Wright and the San Diego Union Tribune, Julie Bravo, Nikki Shellenberger and all of the Ultrastar Cinema Staff

RANCHOS
COCINA
MEXICANA VEGETARIANA

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What's Next for *San Diego Underground Film Festival*?

Ché Café Collective
x
San Diego Underground Film Festival
present

THE CATACOMBS
Views from the underground

- Monthly Screenings - Workshops - Guest Artists and Lecturers -

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https://www.facebook.com/che.cafe.collective

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- Upcoming Events -

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2015

"The Nightmare Animations"

with artist
Grace Nayoon Rhee

Experimental animator, Grace Rhee, shows her films and the films that have influenced her work.

JANUARY 2016

Screening of
Wassup Rockers

followed with a lecture by
Rodger Almendarez -Jiménez

Almendarez -Jiménez, PhD candidate in Media Studies at Northwestern University, discusses the representation of Latinos in American media and the ethics of cultural appropriation.

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