

**FILM SCHEDULE:  
2008 HSDFI NWA Documentary Film Festival  
JB Hunt Center - - University of Arkansas**

**Friday, November 14, 2008**

**Theatre 1**

**5:00p** *The Edge of Eden: Living with the Grizzlies*

Jeff Turner / Sue Turner

RUSSIAN FEDERATION / 2006 / 1 hr 28 min

Canadian, Charlie Russell has been raising orphaned grizzly bear cubs in the wilderness of Russia for the past decade. Becoming their surrogate mother he struggles to teach them everything they need to survive a life in the wild. But will it be enough?

**7:00p** *The Buffalo Flows*

Larry Foley - Q&A to follow

UA / 2008 / 57 min

The Buffalo River is born in the Ozark Mountains, springing from the hills and into rock framed valleys carved by weather and ageless time. "This story is like the old song, 'Big Rock Candy Mountain.' There's not just one thing that makes the Buffalo so special—so unique," said Foley. "When the 'Battle for the Buffalo' was won, protecting the river from being dammed, we saved a national, natural treasure."

**8:35p** *Kiren Over Mongolia*

Joseph Spaid

MONGOLIA / 2004 / 1 hr 26 min

The story of a young man's quest to learn the ancient art of hunting with eagles. Set in the staggering beauty of extreme Mongolia, Kuma retraces his grandfather's steps to trap and train his own eagle, and in doing so, rediscovers his own people.

**Theater 2**

**5:00p**

*Motodrom*

Jorg Wagner

GERMANY / 2006 / 9 min

The world of the hellriders: men and motorbikes, speed and stunts, gasoline and adrenaline. Racing their antique bikes around the wood-paneled walls of a circular tower, the riders appear to defy gravity while the captivated audience peers down from above. *Motodrom* stylishly captures the atmosphere in beautiful black-and-white imagery using energetic camerawork and pulsating sound. A dying fairground attraction portrayed in a thrilling homage at 5000 rpm.

*Massacre at Murambi*

Sam Kauffman

Rwanda,USA / 2007 / 5 min

Does the way we responded to the genocide in Rwanda tell us about who we are as members of the 'Global Village' and predict our response to Darfur?

*I Always Do My Collars First: A Film About Ironing*

Conni Castille / Allison Bohl

USA / 2006 / 25 min

*I Always Do My Collars First* follows four dynamic Cajun women in Southwestern Louisiana as they go about their daily lives while telling and showing us what ironing means to them. Ironing is a nurturing, emotional, and learned process, transmitted from mothers to daughters; it is an activity performed with aesthetic sensibilities that connect these women to other women in their community.

*The Noodle Man*

Bert Shapiro

USA / 2004 / 7 min

Chinatown in New York City is like a traditional village set in the midst of Manhattan. A tightly packed neighborhood of torturously winding and overcrowded streets. Tung Tak Chiu's days are spent at the Hong Hop Noodle Company right in

the center of the village. He is the man for all jobs in this busy factory. A delightfully humorous individual, with an animated face and with movements that could belong to a dancer.

### *S.P.I.C. The Storyboard of My Life*

Robert Castillo

USA / 2004 / 25 min

*S.P.I.C.* is 5 stories, when my family and me lived in Chelsea Mass. the other kids called us SPICS we didn't know it was a racist word, they said it meant Special Person In Chelsea. Student Academy Award Winner.

### *Sand Dancer*

Valerie Reid

NEW ZEALAND / 2006 / 10 min

If the first step is right, the next step must be too.

## **6:45p**

### *Wittenoom*

Caro McDonald//Steve Thomas

AUSTRALIA / 2007 / 52 min

Melbourne filmmaker Carolyn MacDonald traveled a very long way to make *Wittenoom*, her documentary about the former asbestos-mining town smack-bang in the heart of WA's Pilbara. Regarded by outsiders as both a "disaster" zone and a "ghost-town," Wittenoom faces a bleak future. With asbestos pollution still an issue, the government wants to deregister the town and most of its 1500 residents have left.

### *Chain of Life*

Kaori Ishii / Kiyoshi Yoneyama

JAPAN / 2006 / 45 min

This movie examines the hands of the artisan who uses cherry blossom wood stamps to transform a solid piece of fabric into a kimono. Through this process, we encountered the life of an artisan.

## **8:00p 14 Women**

Mary Lambert

USA / 2007 / 60:00

The story of how women have changed and are changing the face of politics in America. The 14 women of the Senate have lives that are similar to any other working woman in America. They have to juggle jobs, husbands, children staff, logistics...and find a way to cope with all the pressures that come with a living a life of compromise, a life that demands sacrifice. They travel a great deal which is exhausting and puts added strain on family. We will go on an emotional ride with several of these women: traveling with them to their home states, attending campaign fundraisers and little league games.

## **9:15p Alone Across Australia**

Jon Muir / Ian Darling

AUSTRALIA / 2003 / 52 minutes

In 2001, one of the worlds most accomplished climbers and adventurers; Jon Muir began a 2,500-kilometer odyssey to cross Australia from the south to the north coast on foot. For 128 days, Jon and his dog Serphine, survived entirely off the land -- hunting and gathering along the way. Jon was taxed to the limit physically and emotionally. Often close to despair, he drew on his instinct for survival, his deep understanding of the land and his remarkable inner strength.

## **Saturday, November 15, 2008**

### **Theater 1**

**10:00a**

### *Sphere of Influence*

Stace Treat

UA / 30 min

The story of sculptor Hank Kaminsky's creation of the Fayetteville Peace Prayer Fountain in Fayetteville, Arkansas. Kaminsky and his team exercise vision, determination, skill and the occasional miscalculation on a journey to create art, community and a symbol of peace and unity.

### *Rare Edition*

Katy Widder Henriksen / James Nash Alford /Charlie Alison

UA / 30 min

Story of the Dickson Street Bookshop in Fayetteville, AR.

### *KURM Radio, Soapbox of the Air*

Kelley Miller / Hayot Tuychiev / Nikki Wise - Q&A to follow

UA / 2008 / 28 min

There are only a handful of independent radio stations left in the United States. The film follows Colonel Kermit Womack and his staff as they show just how much a day at KURM radio differs from the average, conglomerate programming.

### **11:40a** *The Arkansas Rockefeller*

Kris Katrosh - Q&A to follow

USA / 2004 / 56 min

Winthrop Rockefeller, 41, arrived in Little Rock in 1953, hoping to change his life. His wealth, fame, lifestyle, and philosophy all set him apart from his fellow Arkansans and many of them thought his move would be temporary. They were wrong.

### **1:00p** *Alone Across Australia*

### **2:10p** *The Lost Year*

Sandra Hubbard - Q&A to follow

USA / 2006 / 55 min

The story of the school year following the Central High School Desegregation Crisis of 1957. That summer, with the help of the Arkansas Legislature, Governor Orval Faubus set in motion, and the community voted in a September referendum, to close all four high schools in the city to avoid integration, once again. The filmmaker weaves individual stories of different classmates and teachers experiences with the turmoil of the times.

### **3:30p**

#### *Phoenix Dance*

Karina Epperlein

USA / 2006 / 17 min

The film *Phoenix Dance* shows us the beauty and strength of one individual who defies our expectations of what it means to be "disabled." In March 2001, Homer Avila - who had been dancing with Twyla Tharp, Bill T. Jones, Mark Morris and Momix among others - discovered that the pain in his hip was cancer. One month later, his right leg and most of his hip were amputated. What unfolds is the story that leads to the duet called "Pas", which the renowned Alonzo King choreographed for Homer, now missing one leg, and Andrea Flores. We witness a deeply moving collaboration. The film is an intimate poem, revealing that when heart and will are joined, the impossible happens.

### *Popaganda: The Art & Subversion of Ron English*

Pedro Carvajal

USA / 2005 / 1hr 18min

A film about the culture-jamming and billboard-liberation antics of Ron English. The modern day Robin Hood of Madison Avenue, Ron paints, perverts, infiltrates, reinvents and satirizes modern culture on canvas, in songs, and directly on hundreds of pirated billboards. Shot entirely guerilla-style, the film chronicles the evolution of an artist who offers an alternative universe where nothing is sacred, everything is subverted and there's always room for a little good-natured fun.

### **5:25p**

#### *Historic Bridges of Arkansas*

Carole Adornetto / Casey Sander

USA / 2006 / 37 min

Bridges do not last forever. We are losing historic bridges to ravages of time and demands of a modern roadway system. In this program we share their stories, importance and place in the fabric of Arkansas life.

### *A New Island*

Dale Carpenter - Q&A to follow

USA / 2006 / 56 min

Today, one-tenth of the population of the Marshall Islands is living in the town of Springdale, Arkansas. A New Island introduces us to some of the people who have made this journey, and chronicles the challenges they face adapting to life in the Ozarks.

**7:30p** *Wiener Takes All: A Dogumentary*

Shane MacDougall

USA / 2007 / 1 hr 19 min

Welcome to the world of competitive wiener dogs, a world that boasts healthy dachshunds and rabid owners. Unleash the truth as we track America's sexiest and fastest weenies on the professional dachshund circuit. Every year, tens of thousands of American dachshund owners enter their dogs in various competitions. Extremely popular, dachshund races routinely bring horse and dog tracks a week's worth of attendance on a single night (in Buda, Texas, almost 20,000 hit the annual races). There's even a national wiener dog racing championships - the Wiener Nationals, that features racing weenie dogs from across the country.

**9:05p** *American Music: Off the Record*

Benjamin Meade - Q&A to follow

USA / 2007 / 1 hr 20 min

The documentary features theorists Noam Chomsky and Douglas Rushkoff alongside singer/songwriter Jackson Browne and more than 50 musical artists in an interrogation of the American music industry. The film covers a great deal of ground from the authenticity of live music to the circumvention of the corporate machine by indie distribution, to the demise of the privately owned music store.

**Theater 2**

**10:00a** *The Old Gray Lady-Arkansas' First Newspaper*

Kevin Clark / Donna Lampkin Stephens - Q&A to follow

USA / 2006 / 1 hr 30 min

*The Old Gray Lady - Arkansas's First Newspaper* is an artful and accurate telling of the history of a proud and progressive newspaper of a southern state; it also takes a balanced look at the brutal newspaper war that silenced the loudest liberal voice of Arkansas.

**12:00p** *King Corn*

Aaron Woolf

USA / 2007 / 1 hr 26 min

*King Corn* is a feature documentary about two friends, one acre of corn, and the subsidized crop that drives our fast-food nation. Ian Cheney and Curt Ellis, best friends from college on the east coast, move to the heartland to learn where their food comes from. With the help of friendly neighbors, genetically modified seeds, and powerful herbicides, they plant and grow a bumper crop of America's most-productive, most-subsidized grain on one acre of Iowa soil. But when they try to follow their pile of corn into the food system, what they find raises troubling questions about how we eat-and how we farm.

**1:50p** *The Buffalo Flows* - Q&A to follow

**3:15p**

*Bridge to a New Life, The Story of Miss Malen & the Couch Surfers*

Sarah Moore / Cheryl Sybrant - Q&A to follow

UA / 22 min

The film takes a look at the lives of homeless young adults, age 18-22, in Northwest Arkansas who are given a second chance in life when they enter Youth Bridge Transitional Living Program, run by the witty, and sometimes exasperated, Miss Malen Gardner.

*Sunken Dreams: William 'Coin' Harvey and Monte Ne, Arkansas*

Nathan Crowder

UA / 24 min,

When Beaver Lake was created in the 1960s, it enveloped most of Monte Ne. But the story of Harvey and Monte Ne continues to interest area residents and tourists alike. Crowder's documentary is a fascinating retrospective on Harvey and his resort. This film features the original music commissioned by Harvey as well as original photographs, the majority of which are from the collections of the Rogers Historical Museum and the Shiloh Museum of Ozark History. This film also features interviews of relevant experts about the life and times of "Coin" Harvey.

### *Dogpatch*

Dixie Kline / Matthew Rowe - Q&A to follow

UA / 23 min

Arkansas built a theme park around Al Capp's popular comic strip, Lil' Abner, in the heart of the Ozarks. In spite of warning signs that it might fail, Dogpatch USA entertained a generation of people. A mountain of challenges finally crushed the park, but its ghost is still hanging around.

### **5:00p** *This Black Soil: A Story of Resistance and Rebirth*

Teresa Konechne

USA / 2004 / 58 min

This inspiring and provocative new film chronicles the successful struggle of Bayview, Virginia, a small and severely impoverished rural African-American community, to pursue a new vision of prosperity. Catalyzed by the defeat of a state plan to build a maximum-security prison in their backyard, the powerful women leaders and residents created the Bayview Citizens for Social Justice, a non-profit organization, secured \$10 million in grants, purchased the proposed prison site land and are now building a new community from the ground up.

### **6:20p** *Volcanic Sprint*

Steve Dorst

CAMEROON / 2007 / 52 min

The sleepy town of Buea in the Southwest Province of Cameroon hosts Africa's most grueling footrace: the Mt. Cameroon Race of Hope, a marathon-length sprint 10,000 feet up a live volcano, and back down again. To conquer the mountain, racers must overcome some of the cruelest conditions in sport: temperatures fluctuate 50 degrees, altitude sickness claims the weak, and loose volcanic stones can cause serious injury, and even death, as runners fly back down the mountain.

### **7:30p** *Death of Two Sons*

Micah Schaffer / Alrick Brown

USA/GUINEA / 2005 / 1hr 4 min

Micah Schaffer's moving, stunningly shot documentary juxtaposes the deaths of a Guinean in America and an American in Guinea. The Guinean in *Death of Two Sons* was Amadou Diallo, senselessly gunned down by four New York City policemen with 41 bullets. The American was Peace Corps volunteer Jesse Thyne, who lived with Amadou's family in Guinea and died in a car crash there. The two men never met, but their destinies are intertwined in this unique film.

### **9:00p** *Ridin' & Rhymin'*

Dawn Smallman / Greg Snider / Dawn Smallman

USA / 2004 / 57 min

Cowgirl poet Georgie Sicking pens tough rhymes for hard times. Whether she's on horseback, driving hundreds of cattle through a mountain range or onstage, reciting to hundreds of fans, this intimate documentary captures the remarkable life of America's most honored cowgirl poet. When a flash flood destroys her house, Georgie is forced home, to once again rebuild her life. Again, when she receives news of the homicide of her youngest son, Georgie's strength turns hardships into verse. Ride tandem with this great woman, whose poetry of perseverance tells how her west was won.

## **Sunday, November 16, 2008**

### **Theater 1**

**10:00a** *Ridin' & Rhymin'*

### **11:15a** *Letters from the Other Side*

Heather Courtney

MEXICO, USA / 2005 / 1 hr 15 min

*Letters from the Other Side* interweaves video letters carried across the U.S./ Mexico border with the intimate stories of women left behind in post-NAFTA Mexico. By focusing on a side of the immigration story rarely told by the media, *Letters* paints a complex portrait of families torn apart by economics, communities dying at the hands of globalization, and governments incapable or unwilling to do anything about it.

**12:45p**

*KURM Radio, Soapbox of the Air*

*Rare Edition* - Q&A to follow

*The Arkansas Rockefeller* - Q&A to follow

**4:20p** *Born in the Honey: The Pinetop Perkins Story*

Peter S. Carlson - Q&A to follow

USA / 2007 / 1hr

A 60-minute documentary tracing the journey of 93-year-old blues piano legend Pinetop Perkins. His story, as told through in-depth interviews with fellow friends and musicians such as Bobby Rush, Ike Turner, Kim Wilson and others, portrays the struggles and triumphs of Pinetop's life and offers a rare understanding of the man and his music.

**Theater 2****10:00a**

*Historic Bridges* - Q&A to follow

*A New Island* - Q&A to follow

**11:55a**

*Mr. Minervino*

*I Always Do My Collars First: A Film About Ironing*

*S.P.I.C. The Storyboard of My Life*

*Sand Dancer*

*Elizabeth Richardson Center*

Kelsey Norbash / Alex Summers - Q&A to follow

FHS / 7 min

The story of a center created to serve infants and children with disabilities. Follow two twins born with cerebral palsy as their parents and therapists work to insure success and enhance their quality of life.

**1:54p** *Hawks of Wilson Park*

Carl P. Hitt

USA / 2008 / 50 min

Carl Hitt began videotaping a pair of Red-shouldered Hawks at Fayetteville's Wilson Park in the spring of 2003. This video documents three years of their struggle to rear their young and survive in an urban environment.

**3:05p** *The Last Cowboy*

Jon Alpert

USA / 2004 / 1 hr 27 min

Shot in South Dakota over 24 years, *The Last Cowboy* is a remarkable slice of American history. While 250 families leave their farms and ranches every week in the U.S., this documentary follows a young man, Vernon Sager, grow old as he fights to maintain a way of life and sees it fade away.

**4:50p** *The Lost Year* - Q&A to follow