advance tickets available through Ticketmaster

the 43rd annual USA FILM FESTIVAL

April 24 - 28, 2013 - Angelika Film Center Dallas

www.usafilmfestival.com
Manhunt

Wednesday, April 24 7:00pm

With audiences now familiar with the general backdrops of the events and operational procedures presented in fictionalized films such as “Zero Dark Thirty,” the riveting new documentary “Manhunt” is a real-life spy thriller that reveals behind-the-scenes accounts from the analysts, targeters and operatives that televise to disagreements, frustrations, tragedies and triumphs that make up this fascinating and painful chapter in American military and political history.

For years, Osama bin Laden was the target of intense scrutiny, with an entire unit at the CIA dedicated to tracking his every move, documenting his every public meeting, and trying to determine what violence he might try to perpetrate. The wealthy Saudi who had taken up the cause of the Muslim jihad and helped establish a secret network of terror called al-Qaeda, one of America’s most dangerous threats, bin Laden was the obsession of a small group of CIA analysts and operatives in the 1990s, who were determined to stop him before he struck again—and then September 11, 2001 happened. With bin Laden’s intentions tragically confirmed, these same CIA analysts and operatives were now blamed for failing to prevent 9/11, even though they spent years warning about the possibility of an attack. Directed by Greg Barker, the HBO Documentary Film, “Manhunt,” tells the remarkable true story of the two-decade pursuit of the world’s most notorious terrorist. The film features testimony and recollections—some shared for the first time—from the CIA officers who labored to destroy bin Laden’s terrorist organization and eventually the man himself. 102 mins.

Director Greg Barker in attendance.

Molly’s Theory of Relativity

Salute to JEFF LIPSKY

Wednesday, April 24 7:15pm

From writer/director Jeff Lipsky (“Flannel Pajamas,” “Once More with Feeling”), “Molly’s Theory of Relativity” is a surreal, endearing, and ultimately devastating tale of a day in the life of Molly Bluefield (Sophia Takal), an attractive 28-year-old astronomer whose Halloween is shaping up to be a particularly weird one. Having recently lost her job, Molly is poised to make a reckless decision—the first one of her well-ordered life. Providing counsel over the course of the day are her husband (Laurence Michael Levine), father-in-law (Reed Birney), her mute grandfather, three dead relatives (you read that correctly), and two small children, one of whom may be imaginary. Lipsky’s unique romantic comedy simultaneously examines what it means to be a working professional in today’s economy, the bonds of family, and the notion that death is little more than a state of mind. 102 mins. Jeff Lipsky and producer Nick Atias in attendance.

Prince Avalanche

Salute to DAVID GORDON GREEN

Wednesday, April 24 7:30pm

From writer/director (and Dallas native) David Gordon Green comes an offbeat comedy about two men painting traffic lines on a desolate country highway that’s been ravaged by wildfire. “Prince Avalanche” was filmed outside of Austin, Texas at Bastrop State Park, which suffered a devastating wildfire in September 2011. Against this dramatic setting, beautifully shot by frequent Green collaborator Tim Orr, the man bicker and joke with each other, eventually developing an unlikely friendship. Loosely adapted from the Icelandic film “Either Way,” this film was shot in just 16 days. “There weren’t big trucks with loads of gear to worry about, like in a studio feature,” said Green. “And there were never more than 10 people on set, anywhere.” Driven by striking performances from Paul Rudd and Emile Hirsch, the funny, meditative and at times surreal “Prince Avalanche” features a score by Explosions in the Sky and David Wingo. 94 mins. David Gordon Green in attendance.

DEDICATION

This year’s program is dedicated to those talented artists we lost this past year—some of our founders, advisory board members, honoraries and guests—friends all.
THE WAY, WAY BACK
Thursday, April 25 7:00pm

From Academy Award® winners Jim Rash and Nat Faxon (the duo won for best screenplay for “The Descendants,” along with the film’s director Alexander Payne), “The Way, Way Back” is the comical and poignant coming of age story of 14-year-old Duncan’s (Liam James) summer vacation with his mother Pam ( Toni Collette), her overbearing boyfriend Trent (Steve Carell), and his daughter Steph (Zoe Levin). Having a rough time fitting in, the introverted Duncan finds an unexpected friend in gregarious Owen (Sam Rockwell), manager of the Water Wizz waterpark. Through his funny, clandestine friendship with Owen, Duncan slowly opens up and begins to finally find his place in the world - all during a summer he will never forget. 96 mins.

ABOUT THE DIRECTORS
As former longtime members of the Groundlings Theatre in Los Angeles, Jim Rash and Nat Faxon have a long history of making people laugh, both on and off the screen.

Jim Rash comically stars as Dean Pelton, the well-meaning (but often foundering) and sexually astringent Greendale Community College Dean on NBC’s “Community.” Prior to “Community,” Rash was a series regular on NBC’s “The Naked Truth” and ABC’s “Help Me, Help You.” His re-occurring roles include Fenton on “That ‘70s Show” and Andrew on “That ’70s Show.” His re-occurring roles include Fenton on “That 70s Show” and Andrew on “That ’70s Show”.

Nat Faxon most recently starred in the Fox comedy series “Ben and Kate,” where he played a spontaneous brother who moved in with his sister to help raise his niece, and ultimately found a sense of direction and purpose he never knew. Faxon has appeared in a number of notable television shows including the Fox sitcom “Happy Endings,” where he starred as a series regular, the WB’s “Gross Pointe,” the irreverent parenting comedy “Up All Night,” NBC’s “Are you there, Chelsea?” and the ABC sitcom “Happy Endings.”

BLUEBIRD
Thursday, April 25 7:15pm

In his striking and moving debut feature “Bluebird,” written/director Lance Edmands explores the interconnectedness of a small town in the northern reaches of Maine. When Lesley, the local school bus driver, (Tony nominee Amy Morton, “August: Osage County”) becomes distracted during her end-of-day inspection, she fails to notice a sleeping boy in the back of the bus. What happens next shatters the tranquility of her small Maine logging town, proving that even the slightest actions have enormous consequences.

Stricken by an overwhelming sense of guilt, Lesley’s fragility is further tested by her husband (John Slattery, “Mad Men”) - a local logger preoccupied by the imminent closing of the town paper mill - and the boy’s mother Maria (Louisa Krause, “King Kelly”), a disaffected young woman looking to take advantage of a delicate situation. Shot on location in the stark, frozen Maine hills, “Bluebird” fosters a profound sense of place - chillingly capturing the setting’s lonely yet beautiful tone - thanks to the masterwork of cinematographer Jody Lee Lipes (“Martha Marcy May Marlene”). The film boasts a powerful supporting cast including Emily Meade (“Boardwalk Empire”), Emmy winner Margo Martindale (“Justified”, “Million Dollar Baby”), and Adam Driver (“Girls”). 90 mins.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR
Born and raised in a small town in Maine, Lance Edmands graduated from NYU Tisch School of the Arts in 2005. His award-winning thesis film, “Vacationland,” screened at dozens of festivals worldwide, including the Student Academy Awards. As an editor, Lance has cut several acclaimed features, including: “Wild Combination: A Portrait of Arthur Russell” and “Tiny Furniture,” from Lena Dunham of HBO’s “Girls.” Lance has also directed commercial campaigns for brands such as Chevy and Blue Cross. Invited to the 2010 Sundance Institute Screenwriters and Directors Labs, “Bluebird” will mark Lance’s debut feature as writer/director.

CAESAR MUST DIE
Thursday, April 25 7:30pm

Octogenarian filmmaker brothers Paolo and Vittorio Taviani present a layered masterwork with this incredible docudrama — Italy’s official submission for the 2013 Academy Award® for Best Foreign Language Film— about a troupe of actors preparing for a public performance of William Shakespeare’s “The Tragedy of Julius Caesar.” But this isn’t your usual gathering of performers; these thespians are hardened inmates, and their theater is the maximum security Rebibbia Prison in Rome. It is a setting and conceit that provides fertile new ground for the Bard’s drama, as the film follows these hardened men from rehearsal to performance of the play, injecting aspects of themselves into their characters and vice versa. The Taviani blur the line between fact and fiction by casting actual inmates (as well as former convicted-actor Salvatore Striano) as they take an unflinching look at how art can lead a person to take a deep, long look at oneself. In Italian with English subtitles. 76 mins. The film will be introduced by distributor Jeff Lipsky, Adopt Films.

ABOUT THE DIRECTORS
Brothers Paolo and Vittorio Taviani have always worked together on their films as writers/directors. They began directing in the early 1960s, creating both fiction and documentary films. At the Cannes Film Festival, the Taviani Brothers won the Palme d’Or for “Padre Padrone” in 1977, and the Grand Prix du Jury for “La notte di San Lorenzo” (“The Night of the Shooting Stars”) in 1982. They were awarded the Golden Lion for Career Achievement at the Venice Film Festival in 1986.

The Taviani Brothers on the making of “Caesar Must Die”

“A dear friend recounted to us a theater experience she had had a few nights earlier. She cried, she said, and it had not happened in years. We went to that theater inside a prison. Rome’s Rebibbia, the High Security Section. After passing a number of gates and blockades, we reached a stage where twenty or so inmates, some of them serving life sentences, were reciting Dante’s Divine Comedy. They had a few cantos of Hell and were now reliving the pain and torments of Paolo and Francesca, of Count Ugolino, of Ulysses — all in the hell of their own prison… They each spoke in their own dialects, occasionally addressing parallels between the poetic story evoked by the cantos and their own lives. We remembered the words and tears of our friend. We felt the need to discover through a film how the beauty of their performances was born from those prison cells, from those outcasts that live so far from culture. We suggested Shakespeare’s Julius Caesar to Fabio Cavalli, the stage director working with the inmates. We staged it with the collaboration of the inmates, filming in their cells, in the prison yard, the fathoms of the High Security Section and eventually on stage. We tried to contrast the darkness of their life as convicts, with the poetic force of the emotions Shakespeare evokes — friendship and betrayal, murder and the torment of difficult choices, the price of power and truth. Reaching deep into a work like this means also looking at yourself, especially when one must leave the stage and return to the confinement of a cell.”

Presented in partnership with our friends at Shakespeare Dallas.

Note: Some films included in the festival are intended for mature audiences. Some films may contain mature themes.
MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING
Friday, April 26 7:00pm

Joss Whedon is well-known for his ability to tell tightly woven stories with ensemble characters (“Buffy the Vampire Slayer,” “The Avengers,” “Firefly”), which makes William Shakespeare’s quintessential romantic comedy an ideal – if seemingly off-beat – choice for the writer/director. The words are Shakespeare’s, but the world is our own – in this case, a modern-day California version of the city of Messina, shot in gorgeous black and white by cinematographer Jay Hunter. Dallas native Amy Acker (“Dollhouse,” “The Cabin in the Woods”) and Alexis Denisof (“The Avengers”) become the targets of deceitful houseguest Don John (Sean Kranz) as Benedick, sworn enemies engaged “in a merry war” but who secretly chew bubblegum and kick ass – and they’re all out of bubblegum. 93 mins. Amy Acker in attendance.

Presented in partnership with our friends at Shakespeare Dallas.

THEY LIVE (1988)
25th anniversary salute with MEG FOSTER
Friday, April 26 7:15pm

We proudly present a 25th anniversary screening of this science fiction classic from cult film auteur John Carpenter. In this brilliant satire of consumerism in the age of mass media, wrestler-turned-actor Roddy Piper stars as Nada, a drifter passing through L.A. who discovers a pair of special sunglasses that clue him in to the world as it really is, one in which people are being bombarded with subliminal messages designed to keep them docile and submissive. Even scarier is what he sees when he looks at the people around him: aliens in disguise who run the massive campaign to keep mankind subdued for their own nefarious gain. Nada teams with a construction worker (Keith David) and beautiful collaborator (Meg Foster) to free the human race. They’re here to chew bubblegum and kick ass – and they’re all out of bubblegum. 93 mins. Meg Foster in attendance.

The fabulous Meg Foster is one of those lucky actors who has been able to have an enduring career across all mediums. But that really isn’t anything to do with luck. Foster’s career in film, stage and television has been extraordinary and eclectic. She studied with Sanford Meisner and worked extensively in the theater, and was one of the most in-demand guest actors on television in the 1970s. In addition to her unforgettable turn in John Carpenter’s 1988 sci-fi masterpiece “They Live,” Foster gave us the definitive Hester Prynne (“The Scarlet Letter”), an eerily seductive cult recruiter (“Ticket to Heaven”), a multi-dimensional police officer (“Cagney & Lacey”), royalty (“The Man in the Iron Mask”), and even deity (“Xena,” “Hercules”) in a diverse and powerful set of performances. She appeared in Sam Peckinpah’s “The Osterman Weekend” and John Boorman’s “The Emerald Forest,” and, as if her well-earned cult-goddess status weren’t already noteworthy enough, she is also terrific as the witch Margaret Morgan in Rob Zombie’s upcoming “The Lords of Salem.”

MOTORWAY
Friday, April 26 9:15pm

Director Pou-Soi Cheang and screenwriter/Dallas-native Joey O’Bryan redefine fast and furious with this high-octane crime drama from the action movie capital of the world, Hong Kong, and we’re giving it the big-screen treatment. Shawn Yue stars as Chan Cheung, an overconfident rookie in the Stealth Riders division, a secret police unit consisting of the best drivers on the force recruited to take down criminals in the drag racing underworld. Chan and his veteran partner Lo (Hong Kong action icon Anthony Wong) seek to take down legendary escape driver turned diamond thief (Guo Xiaodong) who has never been caught, and who proves to be more than a match for the team. The thrilling, nocturnal showdown is equal parts “Drive” and “The Fast and the Furious” as the cops and robbers take to the streets of Hong Kong using their cars as their weapons of choice. “Motorway” was named Best Picture by the Hong Kong Film Critics Society and was nominated for six Hong Kong Film Awards including Best Picture. 89 mins. Joey O’Bryan in attendance.

STORIES WE TELL
Friday, April 26 9:15pm

Having made her mark as a writer, Oscar-nominated director, and actor with such films as “Take This Waltz,” “Away From Her,” “The Sweet Hereafter,” and many others, Canadian filmmaker Sarah Polley turns the camera on herself and her family in this stirring documentary. What begins as a profile of Sarah’s late mother, Diane – told via a series of interviews with the director’s many siblings, family friends, and actor father Michael – becomes something more profound when a series of long-held secrets rise to the surface. Sarah’s genre-bending documentary is simultaneously an eye-opening look at the malleability of both memory and the definition of family, in which she paints a profound portrait of a complicated and tightly knit family. 106 mins.

SHORT FILM SHOWCASE
Friday, April 26 9:20pm

A collection of non-thematic short works (all finalists in our National Short Film & Video Competition) includes three films about finding happiness and love – Mauricio Baiocchi’s animated CICADA PRINCESS, Jonathan Langacker and Joe Swanston’s surreal JOSEPHINE AND THE ROACH, and Anthony Sabet’s charming WALK THE LIGHT. In Jason Berger and Amy Laslett’s documentary GOOD KARMA $1, an advertising exec (Berger) gets schooled by man-on-the-street marketers; baby and marriage expectations are deliberated in Anthony DiBiase and Lauren Bowles’ THE TEST; and negligence and consequences result in a very bad day for a mother and daughter in Kate Marks’ PEARL WAS HERE, and a pilot in Niall Edgerton, Spencer Susser and Taika Waititi’s THE CAPTAIN. 77 mins.
ODD MAN OUT
Saturday, April 27 8:30pm
Meet the Turner brothers, Mike (Dallas-native Matthew Stephen Tompkins) and Matt (Chuck Huber), heirs to the largest — and most macabre — antiques store in Texas. They’ve already inherited a bitter invalid mother, barely restrained jealousies, and a slew of bad memories, all of which come bubbling to the surface when Mike returns home after 20 years in an institution. Both men are crippled (Mike is a prisoner of horrific childhood memories, and Matt is restricted to a wheelchair) and both are in love with the same woman. One man has it all, and the other is willing to go to any lengths to take it for himself in this dandy comedic psychological thriller and feature directorial debut of Texas filmmaker Michael Crabtree. 100 mins. Michael Crabtree, Matthew Stephen Tompkins, cast & crew in attendance.

PREMIERES AND PROGRAMS
SATURDAY, APRIL 27

SAFETY LAST! (1923)
Saturday, April 27 4:30pm
Bring the entire family to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the classic “Safety Last!” The film stars the brilliant Harold Lloyd as a small-town bumpkin trying to make it in the big city who finds employment as a busy department store clerk. He comes up with a wild public stunt to draw attention to the store, resulting in an incredible feat of derring-do that gives him a head start on the climb to success. “Safety Last!” is the story of an industrious fellow who climbs a skyscraper to win his girl, and remains the ultimate thrills comedy! Laugh-out-loud funny and jawdropping in equal measure, “Safety Last!” is an unforgettable movie experience for adults and children of all ages! 87 mins. This FREE admission program, made possible thanks to our friends at Janus Films. Please see “Tributes” page for more information about the film and Harold Lloyd.

IN A WORLD...
Saturday, April 27 9:15pm
Lake Bell’s feature directorial debut (which she also wrote and stars in), follows Carol Solomon (played by Bell), a disheveled vocal coach who dreams of breaking into the cutthroat world of Hollywood’s voice-over industry — a feat unheard of in a realm long controlled by men with deep and booming voices. Spurned by the arrogant reigning king of movie-trailer voice-over artists Sam Sotto (Fred Melamed) — who also happens to be Carol’s father — Carol pursues her (some would say outrageous) dream of breaking into the male-dominated world. With the encouragement of her sister (Michaela Watkins) and the expertise of charming sound tech Louis (Denniell Martin), Carol nabbed a prime gig from the nauseatingly obvious industry bad boy Gustav Warner (Ken Marino), and lands into a dysfunctional world cawing with sexism and pride. 93 mins. Discussion with the filmmakers (all in attendance).

THE HOT FLASHES
Saturday, April 27 6:45pm
An unlikely basketball team of middle-aged women in Texas goes to cosmic extremes on and off the court and become a national media sensation when they take on the current high school girls state championship team in a charity match to raise money for a mobile breast cancer screening unit. Written by Texas Bard Herring and directed by Susan Seidelman, the wildy entertaining film deftly mixes comedy with some of film’s most difficult subjects (cancer, infertility, coming out, etc.). The film stars Brookie Shields as the overlooked housewife who organizes the match and reorganizes her life in the process. Wanda Sykes (hilarious as the town mayor up for re-election who thinks that playing basketball may be “too black” for her image in the small Texas town), Virginia Madani as the town’s five-time divorcée, biker chick Camryn Manheim, and Daryl Hannah as a “closeted” lesbian who every single person in town already knows is gay. 99 mins. Filmmakers in attendance. Special thanks to our friends at the UT Southwestern Center for Breast Care, Phil Evans, M.D., as well as the American Cancer Society in North Texas for their partnership in presenting this special screening.

JOURNEY TO HOPE
Saturday, April 27 5:00pm
Local filmmaker and University of North Texas professor Tania Khalaf’s “Journey to Hope” documents the story of a kind-hearted man in Guyana, who faces a wave of violent outbursts from the children in his orphanage after the government outlaws the only proven form of punishment. Hoping to find alternate forms of discipline that actually work, a group of young and unproven therapists from Texas is enlisted. Overwhelmed by children with severe behavioral problems and short on time, the group reaches the limit of their training and fears they must look past their minds and into their hearts to find a solution. 93 mins. Tania Khalaf in attendance.

CONGRATULATIONS
Saturday, April 27 7:15pm
Jim (Brian Dietzen, "NCIS") and Bridget (Abby Miller, “Justified”) are on a road trip to visit Jim’s mother, Nancy (Debra Jo Rupp, “That 70’s Show”) on the anniversary of his father’s death. Along the way, Jim proposes to Bridget and much to his chagrin she says no. As if that wasn’t enough to make the trip awkward, when they arrive at his mother’s house she showers them with congratulations and plans for an engagement party, and words spread among Jim’s childhood friends, including Casey (Kevin Rankin in a hilarious turn) now living with Jim’s mother. Caught up in the moment, the couple pretends to be engaged for the duration of their visit, and things go from bad to worse as the weekend progresses and Jim and Bridget are forced to confront their feelings for one another, their lives, and their relationships with old flames. A stringy drama that examines contemporary feelings about marriage from co-directors and co-writers with Miller and Dietzen) Juan Cardarelli and Eric M. Levy. 93 mins. Abby Miller and producer Duane Andersen in attendance. Presented in partnership with Women in Film Dallas.

STEPHEN TOBOLOWSKY HOSTS THE SHORTS
Saturday, April 27 7:30pm
Actor and author Stephen Tobolowsky hosts this non-thematic line-up of six narrative short films. We begin with two emotional journeys — Catherine Den’s SILK, starring Shohreh Aghdashloo (House of Sand and Fog) and Jim Beaver’s NIGHT RIDERS. Leah Shore’s OLD MAN animates a recent telephone diatribe from inmate Charles Mason, and Amilia Scott’s grocery store clerk puts a gravely difficult situation on ice in BEST IF USED BY. And finally, we present two outrageous comedies — From deprived to depraved, Stephen Tobolowsky (“Groundhog Day,” "Californication”) steps out for A LITTLE SOMETHING ON THE SIDE (co-written by Arturo del Puerto and Felicia Faasen), and we close with some guilty, grey Skirt faults courtesy of Jesse Tyler Ferguson (“Modern Family”) and Lily Tomlin as reluctant funerary-grotes in Robert Festinger’s THE PROCESSION. 82 mins + discussion with the filmmakers (all in attendance).

MORE THAN HONEY
Saturday, April 27 8:00pm
If you loved “Winged Migration,” then get ready to love “More Than Honey,” the stunning, globe-spanning, documentary that examines bees and their complicated, interdependent relationship with humans and our food. Swiss director Markus Imhoof’s grandfather was a beekeeper and his daughter and son-in-law are bee researchers. The jaw-dropping, fly-along footage and close-ups of bees doing their work is gorgeous and enough reason to see the film, but the comprehensive work also attempts to answer the question – where have all the bees gone? Over the past fifteen years, the world bee population has been decimated — more than 50% of the bee population in the U.S. has disappeared, with similar phenomenon observed around the world. And if you think those statistics aren’t alarming, consider for a moment that 80% of plant species need bees to be pollinated, and that bees are responsible for one third of our food. In light of the present situation, Einstein’s ominous prediction of fifty years ago seems far more grim today — “If bees were to disappear from the globe, mankind would only have four years left to live.” In English and German with English subtitles. 91 mins. This FREE admission screening is made possible thanks to our Sponsors and underwriters.

PHOTO BY SEAMUS TIERNEY
FREE THE MIND
Sunday, April 28 5:00pm
Can you rewire the brain just by taking a breath? Is it possible to physically change the brain solely through mental practice? “Free the Mind” is the fascinating story of how one man’s vision provides a turning point in the lives of three people. Danish filmmaker Phe Ambo profiles Professor Richard Davidson, one of the world’s leading neuroscientists, as he sets out to discover if and how it may be possible to physically change the brain using only the power of thought. The film follows Will, a five-year-old who suffers from ADHD and anxiety (and who would typically be treated with medication), and Steve and Rich, two war veterans tormented by their consciences and relentless insomnia, whose lives have become painful nightmares. (More American soldiers have committed suicide after returning home from Iraq and Afghanistan than were killed in combat.) Ambo spent a year in the U.S. with Davidson at the CHM as he conducted some unconventional experiments and captured the surprising results in this absorbing film. 80 mins.

SHORT FILM AWARDS PROGRAM
35th Annual National Short Film & Video Competition
Sunday, April 28 7:00pm
Join our National Jurors for announcements and screening presentations of this year’s winning films. Awards are given to the top picks in Fiction, Animation, Non-Fiction and Experimental categories as well as awards for Texas ties, student achievement and more. USAFF prize winners who were recognized early in their careers include Alexander Payne, Todd Haynes, Wes Anderson, Bill Plympton, Michael Almereyda, John Lasseter, and many more.

BOTTLED UP
Sunday, April 28 7:00pm
For 120 years, Dublin Dr Pepper has been manufactured in the small, west Texas town of Dublin. The soda's original pure cane sugar formula has spawned a cult-like following in the Lone Star State and across the globe. But everything changed when Dr Pepper Snapple Group filed a trademark lawsuit against the tiny soda bottling plant. The fascinating documentary chronicles the story of Dublin Bottling Works and co-owner Jeff Kloster, as they fight for their future while trying to hold onto their historic past. Each year, more than 70,000 people from around the world visit the Dublin bottling factory. Now, local residents are left wondering what will happen to their small town. With exclusive footage and interviews, “Bottled Up” provides an insider’s look at the battle over Dublin Dr Pepper. 90 mins. Director Drew Rist and producer Don Merritt in attendance.

BIG SHOT
Sunday, April 28 7:30pm
In 1996, the once-legendary New York Islanders were in serious trouble. Lousy performance and poor management were driving away the hockey franchise’s loyal fan base. Games were half-attended; even the arena was falling apart. The team was at rock bottom. The Islanders were rescued by a hero no one had ever heard of—a Dallas business mogul named John Spano, who swooped in and agreed to buy the team for $165 million. Things began to look up for the Islanders—way up. But none of it was true. Only after Spano had owned the team for three months, and controlled it for six, was it revealed that he was lying. His wealth did not exist, and his prowess as a mogul was a fiction. John Spano was an ordinary guy who decided he wanted to own an NHL hockey team and successfully led, deceived and disassembled his way into the owner’s box. He pled guilty to fraud and served four years in federal prison.

THE PRINCESS AND THE PILOT
Sunday, April 28 5:00pm
Based on the novel by Koroku Inumura, “The Princess and the Pilot” is an action-packed tale of love and war. The war between the Levamme Empire and the Amatsukami Imperium has been raging for years. In the midst of this struggle, the prince of the Levamme Empire declares his love for Juana del Moral and vows to end the war in one year, as part of his marriage proposal. When the Amatsukami get wind of this, they assault the del Moral residence, targeting Juana’s life. As a last ditch effort to bring Juana safely to the prince, the San Mattilla Airforce hires combat pilot Charles Kario, a mercenary of mixed blood, or bastado (his mother was from the Amatsukami Imperium and his father from the Levamme Empire), to fly Juana to the Levamme capital in secret. Charles accepts the mission, but traversing an ocean alone into enemy territory proves a much more dangerous ordeal than anyone could have anticipated. In Japanese with English subtitles. "The Princess and the Pilot" will be available on Blu-ray from NES America beginning May 14, 2013. 99 mins.

Our 2013 National Jurors are actor/producer Denise Crosby, writer/actor/producer Paul Marcarelli, and filmmaker and professor of film at Yale University’s School of Art Sandra Luckow.
Special thanks to Simona Beal for generously underwriting the National Short Film Awards program.
DAVID GORDON GREEN

The film industry likes few things more than putting artists into convenient little pigeonholes, but writer-director David Gordon Green knows how to keep everyone guessing, sequencing with grace from quiet, character-driven movies to outrageous comedy…and back again. Which is why we thought it would be fun to take a mid-career look at the uncategorizable career-to-date of hometown filmmaker David Gordon Green.

“In film school,” Green recalls, “I got typecast among my friends as the guy who was always making ridiculous and absurd comic stuff, so I think it was actually shocking for them when I started making dramatic indie movies.” That set of dramatic indices began with the haunting “George Washington” (USAFF 2000), a film that earned international praise and comparisons to Terrence Malick. Green followed that triumphant debut with the powerful “All the Real Girls,” “Undertow” and “Snow Angels,” but even after the critical acclaim for his early work, the filmmaker was ready for something different. “I always wanted to do comedic and popular movies, and after making four movies that nobody would go to the theater to see, it was hard to find financing for the strange and obscure little dramatic ideas that I have.”

Gifts for the “strange and obscure” served him well for the next phase of his career, a string of oddball comedies that were anything but cookie-cutter studio product: “Pineapple Express,” a bromance disguised as a drug farce; “Your Highness,” which mixed gross-out lunacy with medieval adventure; and “The Sitter,” a slacker-coming-of-age saga with more than a nod to ’60s fave “Adventures in Babysitting.”

Green’s company Rough House Pictures also helped to vault two of his North Carolina School for the Arts classmates into the big time: writer-director Jody Hill (“Observe and Report,” “Eastbound & Down”) and Green and Hill’s favorite ensemble player, Danny McBride. The three of them have played a major role in shaping the voice of American film and TV comedy over the last decade, no mean feat for a trio of former dorm-mates. Once again, just when fans and studio execs thought they knew what Green would do next, he jumped tracks again with “Prince Avalanche,” a loose remake of an Icelandic comedy that brought him back to his roots of minimalist, soft-spoken storytelling. The film, which stars Paul Rudd and Emile Hirsch, earned Green the Silver Bear for directing at this year’s Berlin Film Festival. Not bad for a Richardson native who’s still a few years shy of his 40th birthday.

Whatever he does next—perhaps his long-promised remake of Dario Argento’s “Suspiria”? — Green remains one of this generation’s most exciting and least predictable creative forces. “I’m trying not to corner myself as a Southern, dramatic filmmaker,” he noted early in his career. “I think it’d be cool to do an oddball comedy in Antarctica or something like that.” So do we.

SAFETY LAST!

90th Anniversary screening presented via restored digital print courtesy of Janus Films

“Laughter is the universal language. It establishes a common identity among people—regardless of other differences. It is the sweetest sound in the whole world.” —Harold Lloyd

“To see it today with an audience alternately roaring with laughter and gasping is one of the greatest experiences of cinema.” —David Shipman, Film Historian

A classic for the entire family, “Safety Last!” stars Harold Lloyd as a small-town bumpkin trying to make it in the big city who finds employment as a lowly department store clerk. He comes up with a wild publicity stunt to draw attention to the store, resulting in an incredible feat of daring do that gives him a head start on the clock to success. “Safety Last!” is the story of an illusionist fellow who dreams of winning the big prize, and remains the ultimate thriller comedy! Harold performed the hair-raising comedic stunt all by himself with only one hand. There were no fake backgrounds or computer graphics back in 1923. Strategic camera angles created the dizzy drops. At no time in filming could Harold have fallen more than three stories, but as Harold liked to remind his critics, “Who wants to fall three stories onto a mattress?” Laugh-out-loud funny and jaw-dropping in equal measure, “Safety Last!” is an unforgettable movie experience for adults and children of all ages!

An innovator in the movie business, Harold Lloyd was the number one box office star two years in a row. In 1923, Variety proclaimed him the highest paid film star. The comedic genius of silent star Harold Lloyd is eternal. Chaplin was the sweet innocent, Keaton the acrobatic outsider, but Lloyd—the modern guy driving for success—was us. And with his talent of perfectly executed gags and astonishing stunts, “Safety Last!” is the perfect introduction to his world.

Restoration Information — The DCP of “Safety Last!” was created from a 2K transfer of an original nitrate print. More than 300 hours of digital work went into cleaning the image. Composer Carl Davis then re- synced his original score to the restored master to create the best possible match for theatrical presentation.
### SCHEDULE & TICKET INFO.

#### ANGELIKA FILM CENTER

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<th>WEDNESDAY APRIL 24</th>
<th>THURSDAY APRIL 25</th>
<th>FRIDAY APRIL 26</th>
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<th>SUNDAY APRIL 28</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>APRIL 24</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>7:00pm</strong> Manhunt</td>
<td><strong>7:00pm</strong> The Way, Way Back</td>
<td><strong>7:00pm</strong> Much Ado About Nothing</td>
<td><strong>6:45pm</strong> The Hot Flashes</td>
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<td><strong>7:15pm</strong> Molly’s Theory of Relativity</td>
<td><strong>7:15pm</strong> Bluebird</td>
<td><strong>7:15pm</strong> They Live</td>
<td><strong>7:15pm</strong> Congratulations</td>
<td><strong>7:00pm</strong> Bottled Up</td>
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<td><strong>7:30pm</strong> Caesar Must Die</td>
<td><strong>7:30pm</strong> Bridgroom</td>
<td><strong>7:30pm</strong> Stephen Tobolowsky Hosts the Shorts</td>
<td><strong>7:30pm</strong> Big Shot</td>
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<td><strong>9:15pm</strong> Caesar Must Die</td>
<td><strong>9:15pm</strong> Motortray</td>
<td><strong>8:30pm</strong> Odd Man Out</td>
<td><strong>9:15pm</strong> Touchy Feely</td>
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<td><strong>9:20pm</strong> Short Film Showcase</td>
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#### OFFICIAL SPONSORS

- **Dave Perry-Miller & Associates**
- **Office of Cultural Affairs, City of Dallas**
- **AXS.TV**
- **Magnolia Pictures On Demand**
- **HDNet Movies**
- **Gaedeke Group**
- **HBO**
- **Time Warner Cable**
- **ViewPoint Bank**
- **Weil**
- **Texas Film Commission**
- **StoryMatters Here**
- **AMC**
- **Texas Commission on the Arts**
- **Ticketmaster**
- **ArtWorks.**
- **USA Film Festival**

#### TICKET INFORMATION

- **TICKETS AT THE BOX OFFICE**
  - (Day of show only; Cash sales only)
  - Tickets will be available at the Angelika Film Center upstairs sales desk, for day of show only, beginning at 4:00pm on Saturday and Sunday, and 6:00pm all other days.

- **ADVANCE TICKETS**
  - (only until 4/23!)
  - Available exclusively through Ticketmaster – On sale April 15th

- **TICKETS ONLINE**
  - (additional service fees apply)
  - Log on to www.ticketmaster.com and search USA Film Festival event name. Tickets sold by individual show title. (Online ticket fees = $1.50 per ticket + $4.00 cart fee.)

- **TICKETS BY TELEPHONE**
  - (most economical method)
  - Dial 214-631-ARTS (2787) then say “buy tickets” at the first prompt, then say “operator.” You will be transferred to a live operator who will take your order.
  - (Telephonic order fees = $4.00 flat fee per call; no individual ticket fees)

  - **NOTE:** Ticketmaster’s “off sale” does not mean “sold out.” Tickets may still be available at the Festival box office day of show.

- **Festival Schedule**
  - Advance tickets for all shows are available exclusively through Ticketmaster. Advance tickets are available until April 23 at Noon. After April 23, all tickets will be available at the theater box office, day of show only.

- **Locks**
  - Ordering your festival tickets in advance eliminates standing in line at the theater box office; you can pick up your tickets for all shows at the upstairs theater box office. “Will Call” daily. (Tickets will NOT be sent out via mail.)

- **Trouble-shooting**
  - (The information in the flyer is correct. If your operator is not able to locate a show, etc. listed in the flyer, simply obtain the operator’s name and kindly request that you speak with a Ticketmaster Supervisor who will cheerfully assist.)

- **Avoid disappointment – Order your tickets in advance.**
  - Please check with the Festival’s UPSTAIRS SALES DESK, day of show, after the appropriate time, to inquire about ticket availability. PLEASE INQUIRE IN PERSON. DO NOT CALL THE THEATER BOX OFFICE to request this information – The person answering the theater telephone is located in a different area and cannot tell you how many tickets may be available for any particular program.

#### TICKET PRICES

- **ALL PROGRAMS**
  - $10.00 per ticket
  - Some programs are FREE admission; See film listings

- **Tickets for MANHUNT**
  - are available exclusively through the Festival office and will be first offered to Festival members before being offered to the public.
  - Please inquire for availability 214-821-6300.

#### THEATER LOCATION

- **Angelika Film Center / Dallas**
  - 5321 E. Mockingbird Lane at Central Expressway (NE Corner)
  - Parking is available in the garage located in the North end of the complex, adjacent to the theater

#### FESTIVAL INFORMATION

- **Schedule**
  - Subject to change. (It’s a Festival!) Guests and titles listed are confirmed at press time. Additional guests and changes anticipated.

- **Program times**
  - Listed for actual film running times and do not include discussions with Festival guests in attendance.

- **Seating**
  - General admission

- **Patron and Sponsor**
  - Level members of the Festival may reserve seats for all shows by calling the Festival office at 214-821-6300.

- **Patron members**
  - can call and reserve their FREE show tickets through the Festival office at 214-821-6300.

- **USA Film Festival**
  - 214-821-FILM www.usafilmfestival.com