

53RD ANN ARBOR FILM FESTIVAL

MARCH 24-29
2015

MICHIGAN THEATER
& OTHER LOCATIONS
AAFFILMFEST.ORG

GEORGE MANUPELLI (1931-2014)
FOUNDER OF THE LONGEST RUNNING
INDEPENDENT & EXPERIMENTAL
FILM FESTIVAL IN NORTH AMERICA



National
Endowment
for the Arts

metrotimes

Detroit
Public TV



MICHIGAN
THEATER

The Warhol Foundation for Visual Art

ann arbor's 107.1 one fm
Quality Music From Then & Now

THE
MAPLE
THEATER

M STAMPS
SCHOOL OF ART & DESIGN
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

53RD

ANN ARBOR FILM FESTIVAL

MARCH 24-29 2015

THE ANN ARBOR FILM FESTIVAL IS THE LONGEST-RUNNING INDEPENDENT AND EXPERIMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL IN NORTH AMERICA. FOUNDED IN 1963, THE AAFF STARTED AS A CRITICAL, ALTERNATIVE VENUE FOR FILMMAKERS AND ARTISTS TO PUBLICLY SHARE THEIR WORK. TODAY THE FESTIVAL CONTINUES ITS FOCUS ON THE ART OF FILM, SERVING AS ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S PREMIER FORUMS FOR BOLD, VISIONARY, EXPERIMENTAL AND INDEPENDENT FILMMAKERS.

AAFFILMFEST.ORG

TUESDAY

MARCH 24

OPENING NIGHT

FUNDRAISER DINNER | 6-8PM

MICHIGAN THEATER GREEN ROOM

Enjoy a strolling dinner with open bar, while experiencing the backstage lounge and supporting the future of the AAF. Backstage Dinner guests are welcome and encouraged to join the main party in the Michigan Theater lobby. Dinner will be provided by The Ravens Club's Chef Frank with bottomless cocktails featuring Sazerac spills served and mixed by Ravens Club, along with Clayhouse Wines. Tickets include reserved seating for Opening Night Screening.

RECEPTION | 6-8PM

MICHIGAN THEATER GRAND FOYER

The 53rd Festival opens with a reception featuring open bar with Clayhouse wines, signature Sazerac cocktails mixed by Ravens Club and Arbor Brewing Company beer, appetizers from local favorites Jerusalem Garden, Sava's, the Lunchroom, Café Zoka and more. Music by DJ Jeremy Wheeler.

SCREENING | 8:15PM

MICHIGAN THEATER MAIN AUDITORIUM

Short films in competition, featuring animation, documentary, and experimental new works, including *1000 Plateaus* by Steven Wilkerson, *Ziegler* by Terri Samis & Frank Pahl, *Babash* by Lisa Truttmann & Behrouz Rae, *Of the Iron Range* by Steve Wetzel, and *Many Thousands Gone* by Ephraim Asili.

AFTERPARTY
SAVA'S | 10PM-2AM | FREE

Continue the Opening Night celebration with drink specials and music at Sava's!

TICKETS & PASSES

SCREENINGS

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

\$10 General Admission

\$7 Students / Seniors / AAF Members

\$5 Midnight Movie

OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION & SCREENING

\$40 General Admission

\$30 Students / Seniors

\$30 AAF Members / Michigan Theater Members

\$10 Screening Only

\$150 Fundraiser Dinner & Screening

FESTIVAL PASSES

INCLUDES OPENING NIGHT AND ALL EVENTS

\$100 General Admission

\$85 Students / Seniors / AAF Members

WEEKEND PASSES

INCLUDES FRIDAY

\$60 General Admission

\$50 Students / Seniors / AAF Members

WORK GALLERY EXHIBITION

JANE CASSIDY: FITS OF EASY REFLEXION
MARCH 14-APRIL 5 | WORK GALLERY | 306 S. STATE ST.
Three visual music installations by Jane Cassidy, a New Orleans-based multi-media artist from Galway, Ireland. Square Ball and Purple Tinged Pearl Buttoned Bangled-Billy are works for stereo sound, video projector, and fog machine; They Upped Their Game After The Oranges employs stereo sound and projection mapping.

OPENING RECEPTION from 6-8pm, March 14th.
The artist will present a talk about the work at 5pm on Friday, March 27th (see Friday).

WEDNESDAY

MARCH 25

JESSE MCLEAN

JUROR PRESENTATION

12:15PM | MICHIGAN THEATER SCREENING ROOM | FREE
Jesse McLean is a media artist whose work is concerned with both the power and the failure of the mediated experience to bring people together. She has presented her work at museums, galleries, and film festivals worldwide. McLean will present a program of six videos including her most recent work *I'm in Pittsburgh and It's Raining*.

MUSIC VIDEOS IN COMPETITION

2:30PM | MICHIGAN THEATER MAIN AUDITORIUM | \$6

Recent videos by Adelabola Bodunrin, Mike Olenick, Theodore Darst, Zia Anger, Karen Yasinsky, Craig Webster, Tony Ballo, Alexander Stewart and others featuring the music of Flying Lotus, Angel Olsen, Hiss Tracts, Steve Reich and more. Presented by co-programmer Lori Fehler.

COMPUTER AGE: EARLY COMPUTER MOVIES, 1952-1969

4:30PM | MICHIGAN THEATER SCREENING ROOM

A four-decade survey of computer films presented by programmers Gregory Zimmerman and Leo Goldsmith. Before the clones attacked, before the *NaVi Homeworld* was destroyed, before *Buzz Lightyear* went to infinity and beyond, avant-garde film and video pioneers were expanding the bounds of the moving image by harnessing computer technology to create radical new ways of seeing. These two programs explore the genesis of our current media landscape by looking back at the early computer films that introduced new materials and methods of filmmaking—from oscilloscope experiments to computer-assisted psychedelia; formative digital advertising to music videos—spanning from the 1950s to the 1980s, provoking a fresh perspective on art, technology, and the emergence of computer-generated imagery. The first program includes rarely seen experimental work created in the 1950s and 60s by Mary Ellen Bute, John Stehura, James Whitney, John Whitney, Nam June Paik, Pierre Hebert and others.

COMPUTER AGE: EARLY COMPUTER MOVIES, 1952-1969

7PM | MICHIGAN THEATER SCREENING ROOM

Highlights of the second program features work made in the 1970s and 80s by John Whitney, Jr., Robert Abel, Peter Foldes, Lillian Schwartz, Ed Emshwiller, Larry Cuba, Dean Winkler and Barbara Hammer among others. Gregory Zimmerman and Leo Goldsmith in attendance.

FILMS IN COMPETITION 1

7:15PM | MICHIGAN THEATER MAIN AUDITORIUM

New experimental, documentary, narrative and animated films.

TACITA DEAN: PROGRAM ONE

9:15PM | MICHIGAN THEATER SCREENING ROOM

The first of two programs with artist Tacita Dean, who has created over 40 films since 1992. This program will feature *The Green Ray* (2001, 3 min, 16mm), a single continuous roll of 16mm film where Dean attempts to capture and document a rare optical phenomenon; *Kodak* (2006, 44 min, 16mm), shot in a Kodak factory in eastern France only weeks before its closure; and her most recent film, *JG* (2014, 26 min, 35mm) which was inspired by Dean's correspondence with British author J.G. Ballard (1930-2009) regarding connections between his short story "The Voices of Time" (1960) and Robert Smithson's iconic earthwork and film *Spiral Jetty* (1970). Tacita Dean will be in attendance.

HÅXAN W/ LIVE SCORE BY DEMDIKE STARE

9:30PM | MICHIGAN THEATER MAIN AUDITORIUM

A special presentation of Benjamin Christensen's 1922 legendary silent film *Håxan: Witchcraft Through the Ages* will be presented with an original live score performed by acclaimed duo Demdike Stare (Miles Whitaker and Sean Canty) from Manchester, England.

AFTERPARTY

THE RAVENS CLUB | 11PM-2AM | FREE

Enjoy independent and experimental mixology in a 1920s speakeasy setting.

WORKSHOPS & PRESENTATIONS

EXPANDING FRAMES

10AM-12PM | ROOM 2435 NORTH QUAD, STATE ST. | FREE
Participate in this forum for talking, learning and doing. We aim to nurture both community and critical thinking while fostering a deeper understanding of the work showing at the Festival. Free and open to the public, with presentations and workshops most mornings, Wednesday through Sunday, as well as 2-5pm Tuesday. (see [aaffilmfest.org](#) for schedule).

SATELLITE EXHIBITION

Multimedia and audience-activated artworks at Space 2435 during Festival week include work by Flatsitter, Wenhua Shi, Alvin Hill, Chris Reilly, and Franny Mendes Levitin. Student film programs will also be on view.



POSTER IMAGE

George Manupelli, photographer unknown, circa 1960.

COVER IMAGE

Adapted from the 12th Ann Arbor Film Festival printed materials, by George Manupelli, circa 1973.

EACH PROGRAM IS DIFFERENT.

Films are not rated. All programs are intended for mature audiences, unless otherwise noted. Some films have imagery of a stroboscopic nature. Some of the competition programs will include historic and archival films, outside of awards consideration.

53RD

ANN ARBOR FILM FESTIVAL

MARCH 24-29 2015



FRIDAY

MARCH 27

JULIE MURRAY

JUROR PRESENTATION

12:15PM | MICHIGAN THEATER SCREENING ROOM | FREE
Julie Murray will present a program of films and digital media including recent works *End Reel* (2014), *Line of Apes* (2014) and *Oyan* (2015). Originally from Dublin, Ireland, Murray has been based in the US since the 1980s where she has made more than twenty-five films and digital artworks which have been exhibited internationally.

WHAT FAROCKI TAUGHT: JILL GODMILOW

SCREENING AND DISCUSSION

3PM | MICHIGAN THEATER SCREENING ROOM | FREE
What Farocki Taught (1998, 30 min, 16mm) is Jill Godmilow's shot-by-shot remake of Harun Farocki's 1969 film *Inevitability*. Fire, about the development of Napalm B by Dow Chemical during the Vietnam War. Following the film, Godmilow and Toronto-based filmmaker Mike Hoolboom will discuss Godmilow's film and the work of Harun Farocki.

JANE CASSIDY

GALLERY TALK & RECEPTION

5PM-6:30PM | WORK GALLERY | 306 S. STATE ST.
A reception for an exhibition of three works by Jane Cassidy, who will give an informal talk about her work. A New Orleans-based multimedia artist from Ireland, Cassidy trained in music composition and animation. Her main interests lie in visual music, live visuals, electro-acoustic composition and multi-channel work.

WOJCIECH BAKOWSKI: RETROSPECTIVE

7PM | MICHIGAN THEATER SCREENING ROOM

The first North American film retrospective of artist Wojciech Bakowski, widely regarded as one of the most important figures in Polish modern contemporary art. Bakowski's animated films and videos are characterized by expressive imagery and rely on an extensive commentary delivered in a low, throaty voice by a peculiar "narrator". Continuous monologues, both wryly humorous and melancholic, offer unexpected observations of the narrator's space: urban, private and mental. Bakowski's program will include animated films from his *Spoken Film* series, his lo-fi collage video *Making New Worlds Instead of Forgetting About It* as well as his most recent video *Sound of My Soul*, Berlin Biennale and Biennale of Sydney.

FILMS IN COMPETITION 3

7:15PM | MICHIGAN THEATER MAIN AUDITORIUM

New experimental, documentary, narrative and animated films.

TRANSATLANTIQUE

FEATURE IN COMPETITION

9:15PM | MICHIGAN THEATER SCREENING ROOM
Transatlantique is Montreal filmmaker Félix Dufqur Lapenière's debut feature-length documentary filmed during a trans-Atlantic crossing aboard a cargo ship. Beautifully shot on 16mm black-and-white film, *Transatlantique* offers an immersive view of the journey and the daily life aboard and reveals the ship as a microcosm: a human island in the heart of a great ocean. Preceded by 16mm films *Windmiller* by Margaret Ronson and *Steel Mill Rolling* by Ross Nugent.

ANIMATED FILMS IN COMPETITION

9:30PM | MICHIGAN THEATER MAIN AUDITORIUM

International program of animation including *World of Tomorrow* by Don Hertzfeldt.

CINEMA AND MUSIC PERFORMANCE

BUKE & GASE W/ TED KENNEDY & TECHNICOLOR N.G.

310 E. WASHINGTON ST. | 11:30PM - 1AM | \$5

A live musical performance by Buke & Gase with visual projections by Ted Kennedy, preceded by Technicolor N.G., a 16mm film with live sound by John Klasemann and Walter Forsberg.

AFTERPARTY

THE BAR AT 327 | 11PM-2AM | FREE

Celebrate the festival with a drink at our neighborhood upscale dive bar!

Babash (2014) - Lisa Truttmann, Behrouz Rae

Tuesday | 8:15pm



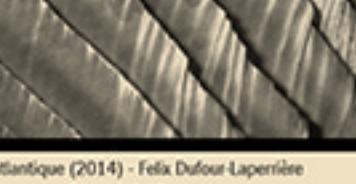
Peacock (2015) - Andrew Kim

Thursday | 7pm



Transatlantique (2014) - Félix Dufqur Lapenière

Friday | 9:15pm



Scrapbook (2015) - Mike Hoolboom

Films in Competition



Shigeto (2014) - Shigeto Shigeto

TBD | 11PM-2AM | FREE

Dance the night away with a special DJ set from Shigeto!

Tron

12AM | STATE THEATRE | \$8

A part of the Computer Age series (see Wednesday). Steven Lisberger's 1982 film will be presented on LaserDisc.

<