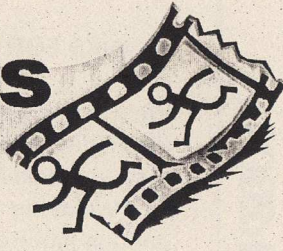


Rainbow Reels

Queer Film Festival

March 2001



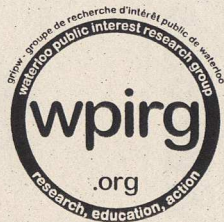
Queer Culture on Film

WPIRG's 1st Annual Queer Film Festival

March 15 - 18 , 2001

University of Waterloo Davis Centre 1302

WPIRG is a UW-based student funded and directed organization whose mission is to provide support for students to research, educate, and take action on environmental and human rights issues as they define them – students acting in the public interest.



welcome

Welcome to Rainbow Reels Queer Film Festival 2001

THANKS FOR COMING!

We'd like to welcome all of you to RAINBOW REELS QUEER FILM FESTIVAL. We suspect that it's the first of its kind in the Waterloo area and definitely long overdue. What have the tri-cities been waiting for? We're big enough, smart enough, and dammit, good-looking enough too. Besides, launching a "first" annual film festival in the year marking thirty years of GLOW (Gays and Lesbians Of Waterloo) was too good a celebratory event to pass up.

This festival is dedicated to exploring the stories of the queer community told in film and also the impact of film on the queer community. Cultural mediums have much to offer our quest for understanding, liberation, tolerance and self-reflection. Film is a powerful venue for the queer community to give insight into their lives, their place in society, and for their stories to enter into common dialogue. And as queer themes and characters increasingly find their way into mainstream cinema, it's important not to let the work and diversity of independent queer filmmakers fall off the edges. We hope we've achieved the right balance!

So, all you queers, and friends and families of queers, sit back and enjoy the festival. We hope this event helps to further make queer issues a regular part of our societal dialogue. Take the message of these films back to your everyday life: to your workplace, your classes, your towns and your friends and help make a truly diverse and proud society.

We aim to make this festival bigger and better and we sure could use your help, so please consider getting involved. Call the WPIRG office (888-4882) or email <rainbowreels@pirg.uwaterloo.ca >.

The Rainbow Reels Organizers:

Usha Bhatia, Vanessa Duffy, Trevor Fenton, David Manning, Daryl Novak, Mark Schaan, Steven Singer, and Ron Welker

[And a special thanks to the designer of our logo & poster, Scott Pigeau]

Rainbow Reels
Queer Film Festival
March 2001



festival at a glance

Rainbow Reels Queer Film Festival at a Glance

THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 2001

7 PM: **BOYS DON'T CRY**
Sponsored by MathSoc. Admission: \$ 2

FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 2001

7 PM: **THE CELLULOID CLOSET**

9 PM: **MA VIE EN ROSE (MY LIFE IN PINK)**

11 PM: **BOYS'n'BOYZ and GIRLS'N'GRRRLS NIGHT AT THE BOMBSHELTER**

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 2001

7 PM: **CHOCOLATE BABIES**

9 PM: **SHOW ME LOVE**

11 PM: **CLUB RENAISSANCE**
No cover charge with festival coupon.

SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2001

7 PM: **WINE & CHEESE**
Davis Centre Room 1301. Cash bar.

8 PM: **SLUTTY SHORTS**

9 PM: **RELAX! IT'S JUST SEX!**

DETAILS

LOCATION: Davis Centre rooms 1302 and 1351, University of Waterloo.

ADMISSION COSTS: By donation. Proceeds to ACCKWA.

Sponsored by: WPIRG - Waterloo Public Interest Research Group, UW SLC 2139
Phone: (519) 888-4882 | Email: info@wpirg.org | Website: www.wpirg.org

Cosponsored by: GLOW, Math Society, Generation X, Club Renaissance



thur. mar. 15. 2001

BOYS DON'T CRY

7PM

[Kimberly Pierce, USA, 1999, 114 min]

From the middle of America emerged an extraordinary double life, a complicated love story and a crime that would shatter the heartland.

In Falls City, Nebraska, Brandon Teena (Hilary Swank, Best Actress Academy Award) was a newcomer with a future who had the small rural community enchanted. Women adored him and almost everyone who met this charismatic stranger was drawn to his charming innocence. But, Falls City's hottest date and truest friend had one secret: he wasn't the person people thought he was.

Back home in Lincoln just seventy-five miles away, Brandon Teena was a different person caught up in a personal crisis that had haunted him his entire life.

Like many young people, he made costly mistakes and when he inadvertently trespassed between his new love Lana (Chlo' Sevigny, Best Supporting Actress Academy Award Nominee) and her reckless friend John (Peter Sarsgaard), the mystery unraveled into violence.

In a single, short life Brandon Teena was at once a dashing lover and a trapped outsider, both an impoverished nobody and a flamboyant dreamer, a daring thief and the tragic victim of an unjust crime.

"Boys Don't Cry" explores the contradictions of American youth and identity through the true life and death of Brandon Teena. What emerges from a dust-cloud of mayhem, desire and murder is the story of a young American drifter searching for love, a sense of self and a place to call home.

The film is directed by Kimberly Peirce from a script by Peirce and Andy Bienen. Executive produced by Pamela Koffler, Jonathan Sehring, Caroline Kaplan and John Sloss, "Boys Don't Cry" is produced by Jeffrey Sharp, John Hart, Eva Kolodner and Christine Vachon. Starring Hilary Swank in a quiet tour de force, the film also stars Chlo' Sevigny, Peter Sarsgaard, Brendan Sexton III, Alison Folland, Alicia Goranson, Matt McGrath, Rob Campbell and Jeannetta Arnette.

PARTY!
FRIDAY - BOYS'N'BOYZ & GIRLS'N'GRRLS NIGHT
AT THE BOMBSHELTER
SATURDAY - CLUB REN

Thursday, March 15, 2001

fri. mar. 16. 2001

THE CELLULOID CLOSET

7PM

[Rob Epstein & Jeffrey Friedman, USA, 1995, 102 min]

The movies are 100 years old, and gay movie characters have been with us since the very beginning -- even during the Production Code years, when "sex perversion" was explicitly forbidden. From comic sissies to lesbian vampires, from pathetic queens to sadistic predators, Hollywood has both reflected and defined how we think about homosexuality -- and what it means to be a man or woman. With clips from over 100 Hollywood movies and interviews with many of the filmmakers and actors who created them (including Tom Hanks, Shirley MacLaine, Susan Sarandon, Whoopi Goldberg, Tony Curtis and Gore Vidal), "The Celluloid Closet" is an epic story -- by turns surprising, hilarious and disturbing. "The Celluloid Closet" explodes sexual myths and explores how our attitudes about homosexuality and sex roles have evolved through the century.

Directors' Comment

The Celluloid Closet is based on the work of our late friend Vito Russo. Vito loved the movies. He was also a pioneering gay activist. He synthesized these two concerns in his study of homosexuality in the movies. Vito showed us that by looking at how the most popular art-form of our century has portrayed homosexual characters on the screen, we can learn a lot about what society thinks about gay people -- as well as what constitutes acceptable masculine and feminine behavior. As filmmakers, as gay men, and as movie-lovers ourselves, we were excited by the prospect of distilling a century of images about homosexuality and presenting them in a context that would allow audiences to look at them in a new way. In the process, we were continually amazed by the images we found, and fascinated by the stories that emerged in the interviews about how these images came to be. The centennial of the motion picture, a time when more and more lesbian and gay characters seem to be proliferating on the screen, seems an ideal time to stand back and take stock of how we got here.

Jeffrey Friedman & Rob Epstein

MA VIE EN ROSE

9PM

[Alain Berliner, France/Belgium/UK, 1997, 89 min]

Ma Vie En Rose is the story of Ludovic, a little girl born in a little boy's body. For him, nothing is more natural than to change his gender. As a hopeful and sensitive child, he truly believes that a miracle is going to happen. He will be a girl, no doubt about it, and he's in love with Jerome, his school mate, and son of his father's colleague. Initially a source of amusement, an outrage begins in their suburb when the two boys are discovered pretending to get married. The family begins to realize with horror that his desire to be a girl isn't just a little boy's fantasy. They try to make him change his mind, to no avail. The situation turns into a real-life drama of intense reactions from neighbors, friends, and teachers, resulting in a profoundly optimistic ending.

Friday, March 16, 2001

sat. mar. 17. 2001

CHOCOLATE BABIES

7PM

[Stephen Winter, 1997, USA, 1997, 83 min]

If you see one movie at this year's Festival, make it Chocolate Babies. It's a hilariously witty and poignant film about a queer, quasi-drag band of p.o.c. (people of color) terrorists, who fulfill every AIDS activist's fantasy by running rampant through Manhattan accosting recalcitrant politicians, corporate executives, closeted homosexuals, and conservative and religious demagogues for exploiting the AIDS/HIV epidemic and doing nothing to stop the crisis. The masterminds behind the action include "to-the-death!" diva Max Mo-Freak; his determined sister, Jamela; Larva, a sex-crazed crossdresser with attitude; Lady Marmalade, a junkie transvestite songstress; and Sam, an idealistic young Asian militant and Max Mo's lover.

Fortunately, the heroes and heroines of our story are not ivory saints. Their peccadilloes -- infidelity, drug use, pitiful lip-synching, prostitution, and obsessions with style, glamour, couture, make-up, and divas -- keep them from being too squeaky clean and holier-than-thou. Caught up in their extreme methods of activism and self-destructive drug and alcohol binges, the group becomes torn by infighting and begins to lose sight of their mission and loyalty to each other. As they tear through New York's boroughs trying to make the world safe for all queers, you can't help but be touched by their fierce dignity, tawdry fabulosity, proud defiance, and unshakable loyalty to each other and their cause. Will they find the peace and justice they seek? Between fantasy, tragedy and comedy, Chocolate Babies is a roller-coaster ride that is sure to provoke laughter and dialogue.

SHOW ME LOVE

9PM

[Lukas Moodysson, Sweden, 1999, 89 min]

Show Me Love explores the circumstances that bring its two main characters together. Show Me Love (released throughout Europe as "Fucking Amal") focuses on two teenage girls who live in a small Swedish town called Amal, and whose differences in personality, popularity status and sexual orientation establish an improbability for friendship. When an unexpected encounter awakens their senses, however, Show Me Love stresses the unpredictability of youth and creates a story about falling in love.

Show Me Love follows Elin (Alexandra Dahlstrom) closely. At home, at school and with her boyfriend, a curious camera reveals a popular, self-assured and bored teenager. Easily resolving to sneak out of their house one night, Elin and her sister decide that going to their classmate Agnes' (Rebecka Liljeberg) unexciting birthday party was better than staying at home. Anxious to relieve herself of her boredom and to confirm a unanimous suspicion that the rejected Agnes is a lesbian, Elin surprises the shy and apprehensive girl with a kiss. Aside from satisfying her curiosity, Elin suddenly discovers the beginning of a new identity.

Through the use of warm tones and a slightly grainy film, particularly in the scenes that include the blonde, red-lipped character of Elin, Show Me Love creates an inviting atmosphere. Although darker, colder tones are associated with Agnes, which accurately reflect the character's isolated state, Show Me Love successfully transmits both characters' sense of displacement and their fear of not belonging. Strengthening and guiding its characters with an optimistic inner drive, Show Me Love convincingly delivers a universally appealing lesson about the joy that results from the mature determination to be free.

sun. mar. 18. 2001

SLUTTY SHORTS

8PM

GO Dyke GO!

[Maureen Bradley, Canada, 1998, 10 min]

Okay, so this isn't exactly a slutty short. Dr. Seuss is the inspiration for this animated subversion of familiar pop imagery and everyday signifiers. Have you got relationship problems?

Why I Stopped Going to Foreign Films

[Steve Reinke, Canada, 1997, 5 min]

Scenes from "classic" foreign films alternate with clips from gay porno tapes. A satire of the discourses which attribute remarkable transformative powers to sex. I've done this. It felt very good. Afterwards I fell asleep for a day and a half. When I woke up I was calm and refreshed but I couldn't remember my name. Luckily though my wallet was right there...

Toilet Mouth

[Velveeta Krisp, Canada, 1999, 4 min]

Toilet Mouth transforms porcelain and chrome into an altar, offering an evocative meditation on the movement between attraction and repulsion at the seat of desire.

Andy

[Steve Reinke, Canada, 1997, 8 min]

Part solo porno video, part documentary profile, the video shows Andy masturbating throughout his beautifully decorated living room while in voice over he talks about his practise and philosophy of interior decorating.

Below the Belt

[Laune Colbert and Dominique Cardona, USA, 1999, 12 min]

Two 17 year-old girls fall in love and grapple with the enormity of their feelings. Totally absorbed in each other, one makes the astonishing discovery that her mother, who she always believed to be happily married to her father, is having an affair of her own.

RELAX... IT'S JUST SEX!

9PM

[P.J. Castellaneta, USA, 1998, 108 min]

Relax...It's Just Sex addresses the issues of sex in the '90s with humor and sensitivity. Featuring one of the finest ensemble casts around, ranging from hot up-and-comers to Academy Award-nominated veterans (including Jennifer Tilly), Relax...It's Just Sex takes a sometimes hysterical, sometimes serious look at relationships today.

Centering around an eclectic group of thirtysomething friends in L.A., Relax is the story of struggling gay playwright Vincey (Mitchell Anderson), who is desperately searching for a boyfriend. His quirky friends aren't any help - they're too preoccupied with their own problems. Tara (Tilly) wants to get pregnant, but her boyfriend keeps falling asleep on her. Longtime lesbian couple Sarina (Cynda Williams) and Megan (Serena Scott Thomas) are breaking up because Megan had an affair with Sarina's male second cousin. And Sarina's about to start dating Robin (Tank Girl's Lori Petty), who may offer her a chance at real love.

The characters are likeable and eccentric, the acting superb, and the direction beautifully paced and inventive. The dialogue is as funny as any you'll find today, which makes it even more powerful when the film turns dark, as a violent gay-bashing threatens to tear the group of friends apart.

Saturday, March 17, 2001

Sunday, March 18, 2001

this is the back page

Rainbow Reels Queer Film Festival supports PRIDE!



**June 8-10
2001**

Roos Island
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Kitchener

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