The poster features a black background on the left side, which is decorated with numerous vertical lines of various colors including red, orange, yellow, green, and blue, creating a rainbow effect. The text is positioned on the left side of this black area. The main title 'RAINBOW REELS 09' is written in a large, bold, white, sans-serif font. Below it, the words 'QUEER FILM FESTIVAL' are written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font.

**RAINBOW  
REELS 09**

QUEER FILM FESTIVAL

Dear Film Goers:

We are proud to welcome you to the ninth annual Rainbow Reels Queer Film Festival! The committee believes it has outdone itself this year in bringing you the best films we have ever been able to get our hands on! We are also very proud to "out" the festival in Uptown Waterloo. Though we are sad to say goodbye to last year's venue, The King Street Theatre which closed its doors this February, we are very happy to welcome you to our new location: the Original Princess Cinema!

This festival, sponsored by the Waterloo Public Interest Research Group, attempts to satisfy a niche in the community by showcasing a variety of queer experiences on screen. Our objective is to increase awareness of the many issues that permeate the greater queer community, by providing content that spans a diverse range of subject matters, genres, and cultures.

Everyone should find something to enjoy at this years festival from the fairytale love story in "The Amazing Truth About Queen Raquela," to the inner struggle of finding yourself in "Save Me;" from a musical with love potions in "Were the World Mine," to an exploration of the many meanings of the term "family" in this years short films program.

We hope you will have as much fun watching these films as the committee had putting the festival together.

Thanks and we hope you enjoy the films.

### The Rainbow Reels Queer Film Festival 2009 Organizing Committee

Evan Coole, Islai Cote, Raj Gill, Martin Krall, and Michael Schmidt.

### Thank you to the following for their assistance:

Jenny Chan, Earl Friedberg, Chrisa Hoicka, Chris Peterson, Cassandra Polyzou, Reena Reddy, Linda Swanton, Kallvis Timberlake, Arianne Villa, and Ty Walkland.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

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# Information

All films are being shown at the Original Princess Cinema in Uptown Waterloo.

## Princess Cinemas

Box Office: (519) 885 - 2950  
46 King Street North  
Waterloo

The Princess Cinemas are located in two different buildings kitty corner to one another at the crossing of Princess Street West and King Street North in the heart of Uptown Waterloo. The Original Princess Cinema is located on Princess Street and is attached to the Huether Hotel.



## Ticket Information

Tickets are available for purchase at the Princess Twin Cinema box office and in the WPIRG office, located in Room 2139 of the UW Student Life Centre.

## Parking & Bussing

In the evening, park for free at the Lower Library Lot off Dupont Street, the Marsland Lot off Dupont Street, the Station Lot on Regina Street, or anywhere in Waterloo Town Square. There is always free onstreet parking at King Street and Princess Street. For matinee parking, use the public lots or the Uptown parkade.

The GRT routes that pass by the cinemas include the following: 7C-E, & 35.

## Ticket Prices

Individual Film: \$5.75

Festival Pass: \$15.00

Opening Night Film Screening of "Were the World Mine" and the Opening Night Gala:

\$12.00 before March 12th

\$15.00 at the door

# Opening Night Gala

## 9:00 PM - Thursday, March 12th



### Dress Code

Dress to Impress

### Time

9:00 PM

### Location

Huether Hotel's Kent Room  
*Across from Cafe 1842*

2009 is the festival's inaugural year in its new uptown location. The Original Princess Cinema is such an exciting venue that the organizing committee wants you to come out and celebrate with us. After the showing of "Were the World Mine," walk, dance, or sing your way over to the Huether Hotel where you can discuss the festival's opener with some of the best movie goers Kitchener-Waterloo has to offer. While you're there relax and enjoy a complementary drink and a few hors d'oeuvres.

The opening film, "Were the World Mine," will transcend reality and your expectations while delivering plenty of laughs. We're sure that when its over you wont want to go home, so stay and celebrate the festival as the excitement builds for a weekend of films that tell stories while pushing boundaries and portraying the queer community in all its fantastic diversity.

# Were the World Mine

7:15 PM - Thursday, March 12th



**Genre:** Musical, Fantasy  
**Director:** Tom Gustafson  
**Region:** USA  
**Language:** English

## Description:

This film, directed by Tom Gustafson (in his feature directorial debut), and co-written & co-produced by Gustafson and Cory Krueckeberg, has been bringing film goers to their feet at festivals around the world, while racking up countless critical accolades. Screened in over 50 festivals thus far, the film has won 14 awards including the Audience Award for Best Film at the 2008 Florida Film Festival, the Best Music Award at the Nashville Film Festival and the Grand Jury Prize (Heineken Red Star Award) at OUTFEST 2008.

Armed with a magical love-potion and empowered by dazzling musical fantasies, a struggling teen (hot newcomer Tanner Cohen) turns his narrow-minded town gay and makes them walk a heartbreaking mile in his musical shoes. Beginning with the rugby jock of his dreams.

This eccentric telling of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" is sure to please and entertain.

7:30 PM - Friday, March 13th



**Genre:** Drama  
**Director:** Lucia Puenzo  
**Region:** Argentina  
**Language:** Spanish with English Subtitles

## Description:

When marine biologist Karark and his wife Suli decided to raise their intersex child Alex as a girl, they left Buenos Aires for the Uruguayan coast in hopes of a peaceful and anonymous life. Now fifteen, Alex struggles with a burgeoning sexuality and an unwanted secret in the gossipy fishing village. Fiercely protective of their child and uncomfortable with her sexual development, Alex's fearful parents encourage her to 'choose' a gender.

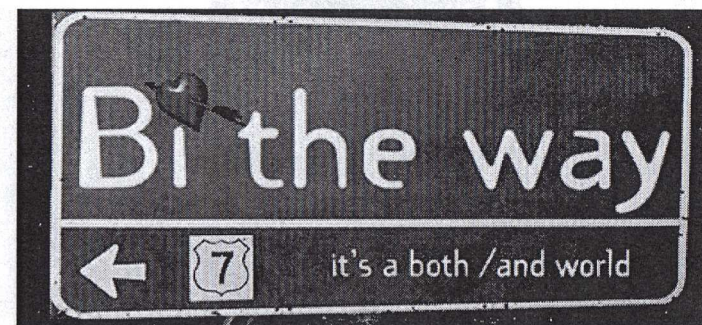
Believing she has Alex's best interest at heart, Suli invites some family friends to visit, with an ulterior motive, her guest Ramiro is a plastic surgeon that she hopes will convince her reluctant husband that surgery is a viable option. Events take a drastic turn, however, as Alex strikes up a relationship with Ramiro's introverted son Alvaro - grappling with his own issues of sexuality - setting two families at odds, and Alex on her own difficult, but defining path of self-discovery.

## The Amazing Truth About Queen Raquela

## Bi the Way

9:15 PM - Friday, March 13th

3:00 PM - Saturday, March 14th



**Genre:** Drama

**Director:** Olaf de Fleur Johannesson

**Region:** Iceland

**Language:** Icelandic, Phillippino, and French with English Subtitles

**Description:**

*Rated R for sexual content, language and some nudity.*

Raquela has a SECRET LIFE.

Raquela has a DREAM

Escaping the streets in the Philippines is Raquela's dream and a lucrative business career in Internet porn is her answer.

Her success as a porn star attracts new friends, new experiences and new adventures.

Will this small town transsexual find fairy tale love in Paris?

**Genre:** Documentary

**Director:** Brittany Blockman and Josephine Decker

**Region:** USA

**Language:** English

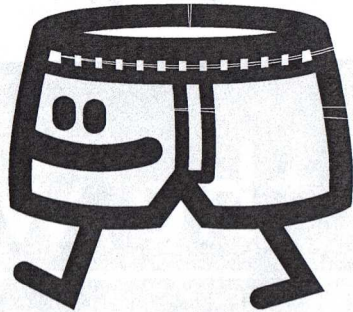
**Description:**

"The iron curtain between gay and straight is crumbling," proclaim the directors of this sexy, road-trip style documentary. Every few years, it seems the media reports that bisexuality is the hot new trend, but we all know there's more to it than that. Could it be this generation's sexual revolution?

Despite "bi" in the title, the film looks at many fluid sexualities: pansexual, bi-curious, hetero-flexible and unlabelled. Five people, aged 10-28, are interviewed and their stories provide a jumping-off point for scientists, psychologists and everyday people on the street to explore the questions on everyone's mind.

Is bisexuality just a phase? Are bisexual men just lying? And of course, what does bisexuality have to do with aliens? The film's strength lies not in the answers it provides, but rather in the honest moments of reflection it captures of people discovering what it means to live outside the binaries.

4:45 PM - Saturday, March 14th



**Babysitting Andy** (11 mins) **Dir.** Pat Mills

When Andy's Uncle and his boyfriend arrive to babysit, Andy is not on her best behavior.

**Benni Has Two Mothers** (10 mins) **Dir.** Vivid Tjipura

Benni has two mums and must contend with his schoolmate's reaction to the news that his mothers are going to marry.

**The Bond** (6 mins) **Dir.** Michael T. Connell

This is a film about the bond between a parent and a male to female transgender child, from the perspective of the parent.

**Clouded** (13 mins) **Dir.** Ajae Clearway

A classic coming-of-age story takes a powerful turn when Sean's struggle to understand who he really is explodes the lie that goes to the core of his being, his relationship with his father, and his future as a man.

**Hello, My Name is Herman** (10 mins) **Dir.** Karine Silverwoman

This ten minute documentary explores the relationship between a 91 year old Jewish man, his lesbian granddaughter and her girlfriend.

**Peking Turkey** (13 mins) **Dir.** Michael Mew

Chris takes his boyfriend Pierre home for Christmas despite his traditional Chinese parent's disapproval. At dinner, Pierre has the task of announcing their engagement, build a bond with the future in-laws, and find the approval he wants to marry the boy he loves.

**Queering My Mother** (7 mins) **Dir.** Lourdes Rivas

The coming-out story of a rebellious queer daughter and how it served as an incentive for her intolerant mother to work towards a mutual understanding.

**So-Called Living** (5 mins) **Dir.** Cyra K. Polizzi

A short lighthearted take-off of the cult 90s series "My So-Called Life." This version features queer women in the title characters, but retains the angst-filled longing that fans remember from the original series.

7:30 PM - Saturday, March 14th



**Genre:** Drama

**Director:** Shamim Sarif

**Region:** South Africa\UK

**Language:** English

**Description:**

In the pressure cooker of apartheid South Africa, two women meet and their worlds are turned upside down. Miriam is a traditional Indian mother - hard-working and self-effacing. Amina breaks all the rules by driving a taxi and setting up a cafe with a local black man. In the face of outraged disapproval, their friendship flourishes. But the price, for Miriam, is the discovery of impossible truths about her marriage. In a system that divides white from black, black from Asian, and the women from the men, what chance is there for an unexpected love to survive?

# Guys and Balls

9:15 PM - Saturday, March 14th



**Genre:** Romantic Comedy

**Director:** Sherry Horman

**Region:** Germany

**Language:** German with English Subtitles

## Description:

What happens when "The Full Monty" crosses paths with "Bend It Like Beckham," all with a touch of pink? When a soccer goalkeeper is kicked out of the league for being gay, he decides to form his own all-gay team. The final game, which is played against the captain's former teammates, is a delicious clash of straight machismo and gay fabulousness that will have you laughing and cheering down to the final showdown.

Sweet, entertaining and deliriously uplifting, this action-packed comedy is, without a doubt, a major crowd pleaser.

*Special Note: Take your Festival Pass to Club Renaissance tonight for their St. Paddy's Day Hoopla and get in without paying cover charge! (Remember: don't give the lovely ticket-takers your pass or you will not be able to get into Sunday's films).*

# A Jihad for Love

3:00 PM - Sunday, March 15th



**Genre:** Documentary

**Director:** Parvez Sharma

**Region:** USA

**Language:** English

## Description:

Parvez Sharma, a gay filmmaker, travels the many worlds of the dynamic Muslim faith discovering the stories of its most unlikely storytellers: lesbian and gay Muslims.

Filmed over 5 1/2 years, in 12 countries and 9 languages, "A Jihad for Love" comes from the heart of Islam. Looking beyond a hostile and war-torn present, this film seeks to reclaim the Islamic concept of a greater Jihad, which can mean 'an inner struggle' or 'to strive in the path of God'. In doing so the film and its remarkable subjects move beyond the narrow concept of 'Jihad' as holy war.

4:45 PM - Sunday, March 15th



**Genre:** Drama  
**Director:** Robery Cary  
**Region:** USA  
**Language:** English

**Description:**

A sex and drug addicted young man is forced into a Christian-run ministry in an attempt to cure him of his “gay affliction”, where instead he is faced with the truth in his heart and spirit.

“Save Me” is an exploration of the controversial ex-gay movement.

Featuring performances by:

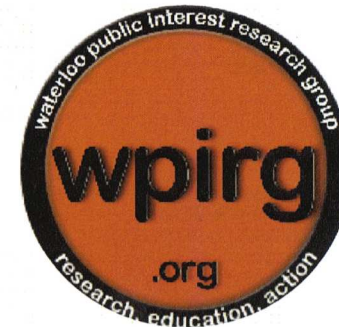
Judith Light, who has captivated audiences worldwide since her portrayal of Angela Bower on the hit comedy series “Who’s the Boss?”. Her award-winning career has spanned across a diversity of roles in television, theater and film; and,

Chad Allen of “St.Elsewhere,” “My Two Dads,” “Our House,” and “Dr. Quinn: Medicine Woman.”

For more information on the ex-gay movement please see: [http://www.save-memovie.com/Ex-Gay\\_.html](http://www.save-memovie.com/Ex-Gay_.html)

## WPIRG

The Waterloo Public Interest Research Group (WPIRG) is a student-driven human rights, environmental and leadership centre located at the University of Waterloo. WPIRG is the oldest PIRG in Canada. It was started in 1973 after UW students, inspired by a visit from Ralph Nader, decided that the resources and knowledge available on campus can and should be used to change the world for the better. WPIRG is a bridge between campus and community where students work in the public interest! Visit: [www.wpirg.org](http://www.wpirg.org) or contact us at [info@wpirg.org](mailto:info@wpirg.org) to get involved.



### Join us in organizing next year's festival.

A film festival such as this does not come together without the dedicated help of many volunteers. We are always looking for fresh ideas and energy. To get involved with organizing next year's festival contact us at [rainbowreels@wpirg.org](mailto:rainbowreels@wpirg.org). Volunteers can express their talents in a wide variety of ways through:

- film selection
- poster & programme design
- website design
- advertising
- promotional events
- fund-raising
- marketing
- networking
- and lots more!

If you would like to receive film festival updates join our email list by sending a request to [rainbowreels@wpirg.org](mailto:rainbowreels@wpirg.org).



# Supporters

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Stratford, ON.*



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**The festival would also like to thank the  
following individual donors:**

Nathan Etherington, Bradley & Micheal Barbour Brown.

**WWW.RAINBOWREELS.ORG**