

RIVERSIDE 3 SAGINAW FILM FESTIVAL

THIRD ANNUAL

August 20-23

2009 | Saginaw, Michigan

- » Feature Films
- » Independent Films
- » Events & Panel Discussions
- » Short Films

2009	Pit and Balcony	Court Theatre	Castle Museum I	Castle Museum II	Temple Theatre	Hoyt Library	Lawnchair Film Festival
Thursday August 20	3:00 p.m.		Afghan Star	Food, Inc			
	6:00 p.m.	Horse Boy	Lemon Tree	Paper Covers Rock			
	9:00 p.m.	Good Bye Solo	Moon				
Friday August 21	12:00 p.m.	Food, Inc	Summer Hours	Sita Sings the Blues	Paper Covers Rock		
	2:00 p.m.					Coraline	
	3:00 p.m.	Short Film Contest	Sin Nombre	The Way We Get By	Girl from Monaco		
	6:00 p.m.		Paris 36	Good Bye Solo	Harvard Beats Yale	Mary Poppins Sing along	
	9:00 p.m.		Paris 36	Locked Away	Trailers from Hell	Shortcut	
Saturday August 22	12:00 p.m.	Girl From Monaco	Sin Nombre	The Borinqueneers	Sita Sings The Blues		
	2:00 p.m.					My Neighbor Totoro	
	3:00 p.m.	Short Film Contest	Summer Hours	Dinner at 8	The Way We Get By		
	6:00 p.m.	Afghan Star	Sugar	Horse Boy	Harvard Beats Yale		
	9:00 p.m.	Raised Alone Carnivale	Sugar				
Sunday August 23	2:00 p.m.			Short Film Contest Winners			
	3:00 p.m.		Lemon Tree				
	6:00 p.m.		Moon				
	9:00 p.m.						The Visitor

Pre-festival passes are on sale in Saginaw at the Red Eye, dawn of a new day and Magic Bean coffee houses and at the Castle Museum of Saginaw County History.

For last minute movie or schedule changes during the week of the festival, log on to www.RiversideSaginawFilmFestival.org

Call 989.752.2861 for more info





2009 FILMS

FEATURE FILMS



Paris 36

France/Germany/Czech Republic
2009, 120 minutes, rated PG-13

On the eve of 1936, a nefarious thug forces one of Paris' most lively little vaudeville theaters to close. But a long-time stage hand rallies his colleagues to restore their theater to its original glory. Sponsored by Monday Night Book Club.

"Elegant, reality-tinged silliness."
Michael Sragrow, Baltimore Sun

Girl From Monaco

France, 2008, 95 minutes, rated R

A brilliant but neurotic attorney goes to Monaco to defend a famous criminal and once there falls for a she-devil who turns him into a total wreck.



Sponsored by Susan Hunter Scott/The Restorative Touch.

"Some movies create an inviting world for the viewer. This is one of them."

Mick LaSalle,
San Francisco Chronicle

Goodbye Solo

USA, 2008, 91 minutes
unrated

Solo, a kind and gentle Senegalese immigrant cab driver living in Winston-Salem, N.C., strives to revitalize a despondent elderly passenger's dreams in order to keep him alive. Winner at Venice Film Festival. Preceded by the 7-minute Harry Arnold short "The Fix," about a woman who secludes herself in an apartment with plans to end her life.

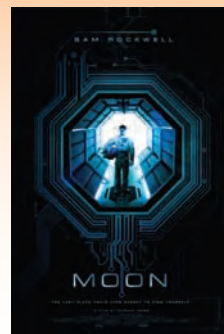


"A quietly soulful study of two very different men."
Steven Rea, Philadelphia Inquirer

Moon

UK, 2008, 97 minutes, rated R

A lone human (Sam Rockwell) engaged in a three-year mission managing solar energy collection on the moon faces a powerful and dangerous dilemma in the final weeks of his stay. Played Sundance Film Festival, winner at Edinburgh and Seattle International Film Festivals. Preceded by the 5 minute Scottish short "Moon – Terraformer." Sponsored by Solar Wind Sci-Fi Club.



"A smart movie for a dumb summer."
Chris Meyers, Oklahoma City Indie Movie Examiner

Sugar

USA, 2009, 120 minutes, rated R

A Dominican baseball pitcher struggles to make it to the American big leagues so he can pull himself and his family out of poverty. At age 19, he gets his big break. Played Sundance Film Festival.



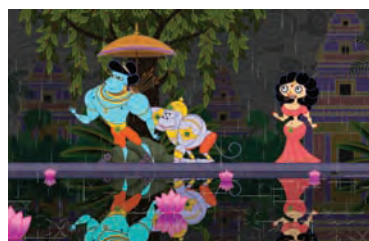
"A compelling and compassionate stranger-in-a-strange-land drama brimming with insight, integrity and life."

David Edwards,
London Daily Mirror

Sita Sings the Blues

USA, 2008, 82 minutes, unrated

In this animation film, three hilarious shadow puppets narrate both an ancient tragedy about a goddess separated from her beloved husband and a modern comedy about an animator whose husband dumps her by e-mail.



The action is set to 1920's jazz vocals. Winner at Berlin and Denver International Film Festivals. Sponsored by Janet I. Martineau.

"I am enchanted. I am swept away. I am smiling from one end of the film to the other. It is astonishingly original."
Roger Ebert, Chicago Sun-Times

Sin Nombre

Mexico, 2009, 96 minutes, rated R

The lives of three young people intersect and align when they meet on the roof of a freight train hurtling north in a border-crossing thriller/drama. Winner at Sundance Film Festival and Edinburgh International Film Festival.

"Performances by the young leading players are uniformly engaging without trying to be ingratiating." – Variety



The Visitor

USA, 2008, 108 minutes
PG 13

Richard Jenkins stars as a disilluminated Connecticut economics professor whose life is transformed by a chance encounter in New York City.



"..One of the year's most intriguing dramas, with a quartet of powerful performances"
Cluadia Puig, USA Today

Lemon Tree

Israel, 2008, 106 minutes, unrated

Based on a real-life incident. When the Israeli Defense Minister moves to the border between Israel and the West Bank a security issue battle ensues over a Palestinian widow's adjacent lemon tree farm – leading to an unlikely friendship between the widow and the defense minister's wife. Winner at Berlin Film Festival. Sponsored by David and Audrey Lewis.



"It is worth seeing simply for the performance of Hiam Abass, magnificent in her dignity and determination."

Sarah Boslaugh, Playback



Summer Hours

France, 2008, 103 minutes

Two brothers and a sister (Juliette Binoche) witness the disappearance of their childhood memories when they relinquish the family heirlooms and other belongings after their mother's death. Sponsored by Hensinger Study Group.

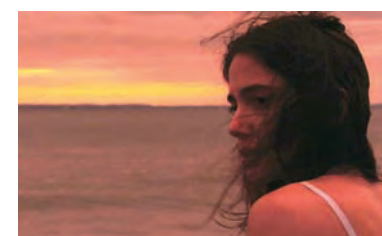
"A slow and beautifully photographed film about what we value – in the emotional and material realms."

Liz Braun, Jami Movies.

Paper Covers Rock

USA, 2008, 90 minutes, unrated

A suicidal young woman who has lost custody of her 6-year-old daughter moves in with her older sister to get her life back together. But the sister may not be the best remedy, Winner at Ashland Independent Film Festival.



"Acting, intimacy and a smart script make hay of tiny details."
Stan Hall, The Oregonian

Locked Away

USA, 2009, 85 minutes, unrated

Saginawian Timothy Rooney produced this film and will attend its showing. In it, Michael Turner returns from the Iraq war to his small home town, a relieved family ... and a legion of the undead. Protecting the townspeople from the zombies and fighting his own inner demons follow.

Raised Alone

USA, 2009, 29 minutes, unrated

Saginawian Jerry Seward is the associate producer of this short subject filmed in Michigan and directed by Sam Kadi. Kadi and other crew members will attend and talk about Michigan's developing film industry. An obsessive workaholic father who neglected his son in order to ensure his family's financial security seeks a reconciliation when his violinist son makes his word-renown solo debut. Winner of the Best Michigan Short award at the Detroit Windsor International Film Festival. Sponsored by Mid Michigan Moviemakers Co-Op.

Dinner at 8

USA, 1933, 113 minutes

Actress Marie Dressler, who spent some of her formative years in Saginaw, is among the all-star cast in a George Cukor comedy rated by the American Film Institute as among the top 100 movie comedies of all time. Set in the Great Depression, it deals with the loss of money and prestige amid assorted kinds of relationships. Also starring are John Barrymore, Jean Harlow, Billie Burke, Wallace Beery and Lionel Barrymore.

Midland movie fan Scott Seeburger will talk briefly about Dressler before the movie and lead a guided tour of his movie poster collection after its showing.

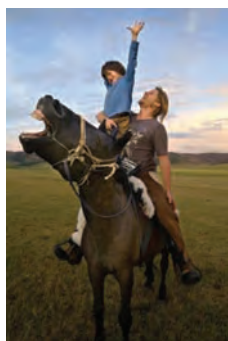
"The exchange between Dressler and Harlow is worth the price of admission."
Emanuel Levy of EmanuelLevy.com

DOCUMENTARIES

The Horse Boy

USA, 2009, 93 minutes

When a Texas family realizes its autistic son shows a deep calm in the presence of the family's horse, they embark on a unique adventure to Mongolia. Special preview of a film due for release in the fall. Winner at Sundance, Sarasota and South by Southwest Film Festivals. Sponsored by the Hazen Family for Phoebe.



"It's both a thrillingly cinematic and rollicking adventure story as well as an intimate journey into a family's most private and tormented moments."

Pamela Cohn, Hammer to Nail blog

Food Inc.

USA, 2009, 94 minutes

An unflattering look inside America's corporate-controlled industry. It may dull appetites. Sponsored by Health Plus of Michigan.



"A scary movie that's also funny, touching and good for you." – Michael Sragowl, Baltimore Sun

Afghan Star

UK, 2009, 87 minutes

After 30 years of war and Taliban rule, millions of Afghanistan citizens are watching the TV series "Afghan Star" and voting by mobile phones to pick winners. The film follows four candidates and the risks they take. Winner at Sundance Film Festival. Preceded by the 14-minute Romanian short "Rating," about a reality show. Sponsored by Delta Public Broadcasting.



"The sense of hope and danger is palpable and the film's hard-won good vibes had the audience cheering. Wonderful movie."
Ty Burr, Boston Globe

Harvard Beats Yale, 29-29

USA, 2008, 105 minutes

Players on both sides of the 1968 Ivy League football match recall not only the game but also the era of Vietnam War protests, student uprisings and the birth control pill. On the Harvard team was actor Tommy Lee Jones, who was Al Gore's roommate; on the Yale team was George W. Bush's roommate and a player who was dating actress Meryl Streep.



"This is a documentary that knows it's got the goods, and does it ever."

Kenneth Turan, The Los Angeles Times

Carnivale

USA, 2009, 28 minutes

Judith Kerman, a professor of English at Saginaw Valley State University, captures the mask and costume traditions in the Dominican Republic.

The Way We Get By

USA, 2009, 83 minutes

The tiny airport in Bangor, Maine, is the last sight of America soldiers see on their way to war in Iraq and Afghanistan and the first taste of home on their return. For the past six years, three senior citizens in the town have devotedly met and greeted each planeload passing through – nearly 1 million veterans in all. Winner at South by Southwest Film Festival.

Preceded by the 5-minute short "A Hat, Some Change and a Shoe" by California teen filmmaker Melody Miller. Sponsored by Janet I. Martineau.



"An unabashedly patriotic, sentimental and somewhat unsettling look at aging in America."

John Anderson, Variety

The Borinqueneers

USA, 2007, 78 minutes

The Puerto Rican 65th Infantry regiment, the only all-Hispanic unit in U.S. Army history, served valiantly in World War I and World War II and then ended up shrouded in controversy during the Korean War. Narrated by Hector Elizondo, the award-winning film mixes archival footage with interviews of those who served. Sponsored by Delta Public Broadcasting.

Trailers From Hell

USA, 2008

An showcase of original, vintage, eclectic movie trailers – many of them better than the movies they promoted – accompanied by amusing and insightful commentary by some of Hollywood's top filmmakers. Among the filmmakers are Joe Dante, Rick Baker and John Landis.



SHORT FILM CONTEST

Nineteen short subject films vie for awards – winnowed down from 40 entries encompassing six states, India and Romania.

Shown in two installments during the festival, the topics include a North Lansing diner, a suspected terrorist harboring a surprise, a girl who can run 600 miles an hour, a parody of a radio talk show, and an office worker who imagines radical solutions to silence a nagging boss.

The winners, picked by a panel of judges as well as by viewers, are reshowed on the final day of the festival.

For full descriptions and running times of the competing films, log on to www.riversidesaginawfilmfestival.org. Sponsored by The Jury Foundation.

FREE CHILDRENS MOVIES

Free popcorn at both films. Children and their adults are welcome to bring in blankets, mats and pillows. Chairs are provided.

Coraline

USA, 2009, 100 minutes, rated PG

Based on the Neil Gaiman book, a young girl walks through a secret door in her new home and discovers an alternate version of her life – one much better. But when her adventure turns dangerous, Coraline must count on her resourcefulness, determination and bravery to get back home.

My Neighbor Totoro

USA, 1993, 87 minutes, rated G

Two young girls move into a house in the country with their father to be closer to their hospitalized mother. Soon they discover the nearby forest is inhabited by magical creatures called Totoros who lead them on magical adventures.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Musical Night at the Temple • Friday

Mary Poppins/Singalong Version

USA, 1964, 139 minutes, rated G

Join Julie Andrews as the magical super-nanny tending to a stuffy upper crust Edwardian era English family in a sing-along version fun for the whole family. Among its 15 tunes are "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious," "Chim Chim Cher-ee," "Feed the Birds" and "A Spoonful of Sugar." Dick Van Dyke co-stars as a one-man band. The movie won five Oscars, including for best visual effects and best music, and combines live action and animation. Sponsored by HSC Hemlock Semiconductor and the Public Libraries of Saginaw.



"Practically perfect in every way."
Phil Villarreal, Arizona Daily Star

Shortcut: The Con Is On

India, 2009, 135 minutes, unrated

In a slice-of-life comedy, the worlds of two con men collide – one an actor who makes it big as a superstar after stealing a script and the other a director who struggles after his script gets stolen. The film is a product of and set in India's buzzing Bollywood film industry. In the 1970s, India overtook America as the world's largest producer of films. Sponsored by Cinda Schantz.



www.RiversideSaginawFilmFestival.org

Cost

- \$5** single admission to all showings.
- \$25** for a festival pass purchased by Wednesday, August 19.
- \$30** for a festival pass purchased during the run of the festival.

Pre-festival passes are on sale in Saginaw at the Red Eye, dawn of a new day and Magic Bean coffee houses and at the Castle Museum of Saginaw County History.

From Thursday, Aug. 20, through Sunday, Aug. 23, **Saginaw's Barnes & Noble**, 3311 Tittabawassee, **will donate a percentage of the net book sales** to Riverside Saginaw Film Festival. Vouchers (required) will be at all movie venue sites as well as at the book store.

FESTIVAL PASS INFORMATION

- Festival Pass entitles holder to enter all films, lectures, workshops and events without additional charge.
- Pass Holders will be given priority seating over individual ticket holders up to 15 minutes prior to showtime at all venues except at The Temple Theatre (all may enter when doors open).
- Pass Holder seating can only be guaranteed up to 15 minutes prior to showtime. It is recommended guests arrive 15-30 minutes ahead
- If Pass Holders do not arrive prior to the 15 minutes they will be seated on a first-come, first serve basis with ticket holders.
- Passes do not guarantee a seat.

FILM VENUES

- 1. Temple Theatre**
201 N. Washington
989-754-7469
- 2. Castle Museum of Saginaw County History**
500 Federal
989-752-2861
- 3. Court Theatre**
1216 Court
989-249-7469
- 4. Hoyt Library**
505 Janes
989-755-9823
- 5. Pit and Balcony**
Community Theatre
805 N. Hamilton
989-754-6587

DONORS



David and Audrey Lewis
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The Jury Foundation
The Morley Foundation