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SF 57 INTERNATIONAL FF

THE 57TH ANNUAL SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

APR 25 – MAY 8

BAM/PFA

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FRIDAY / 4.25.14

ALL ABOUT THE FEATHERS

6:30

NETO VILLALOBOS (COSTA RICA, 2013)

An impoverished security guard acquires the fighting cock of his dreams, without any notion of how to actually care for it. He quickly discovers that a man with few resources is not welcome in his usual haunts when he's carrying around a noisy, albeit handsome, rooster. But his admiration for his difficult companion only grows, and his devotion to the bird's well-being attracts a circle of new human friends as well. Sedately paced yet quietly observational, with a near-documentary feel, this quixotic comedy is enhanced by the stellar performances of a mostly nonprofessional cast and by astute cinematography. **NICOLE GLUCKSTERN**

Written by Villalobos. Photographed by Nicolás Wong. With Allan Cascante, Sylvia Sossa, Marvin Acosta, Erlan Vasquez. (85 mins)

MANUSCRIPTS DON'T BURN

8:40

MOHAMMAD RASOULOF (IRAN, 2013)

Mohammad Rasoulof has rooted his remarkable career in an aesthetically wide-ranging critique of censorship and authoritarian rule in his native Iran. Here, the filmmaker extends his uncompromising body of work with a taut, finely woven drama shot covertly in Iran and based on real-life events. The story revolves around a father who seeks money for his ailing child through work as a contract killer, and a small circle of writers menaced by the secret service. A cat-and-mouse game ensues against a backdrop of generational amnesia and popular indifference, as brutality overwhelms conscience and despotism haunts the oblivious streets. **ROBERT AVILA**

Written by Rasoulof. (127 mins)

SATURDAY / 4.26.14

THE SEVENTH WALK

1:45

AMIT DUTTA (INDIA, 2013)

Acclaimed Indian experimental filmmaker Amit Dutta considers the rich visual arts tradition of northern India's lush Kangra Valley through the oeuvre of contemporary landscape painter Paramjit Singh. Deftly blending sound, image, and text, this subtly hypnotic film meditates upon the figure of Singh commingled with surreal tableaux inspired by the artist's paintings. Dutta masterfully merges the still and moving image into an impressionistic assemblage that pays homage to the legends, folk traditions, and artistry of this unique corner of India. **PAUL MEYERS**

Written by Dutta. Photographed by Savita Singh. (70 mins)

WE COME AS FRIENDS

3:30

HUBERT SAUPER (FRANCE/AUSTRIA, 2013)

South Sudan may have declared its independence in 2011, but that hasn't stopped multinationals and missionaries from laying claim to its natural resources and influencing its people's religious beliefs. Having liberated themselves from the devil they knew—Sudan President Omar al-Bashir, charged with genocide in Darfur—these embattled people now find themselves confronted by a new breed of predatory adversary. Employing intrepid techniques and striking visuals, documentarian Hubert Sauper (*Darwin's Nightmare*) delivers a piercing examination of the human cost of neocolonialism that will provoke both thought and outrage. Sauper received a Special Jury Award for Cinematic Bravery at Sundance. **CURTIS WOLOSCHUK**

Photographed by Sauper, Barney Broomfield. (105 mins)

TAMAKO IN MORATORIUM

6:15

NOBUHIRO YAMASHITA (JAPAN, 2013)

Recent college graduate Tamako does little more than sleep, eat, and work in her father's store. "Japan is hopeless," she insists, but she seems pretty hopeless herself. When her dad makes a tentative stab at dating, it turns the routine of her life upside down, leaving her with two choices: sabotage Dad's romance or find her own place in the world. Written with affection and understanding for both father and daughter and anchored by a triumphantly poker-faced performance by Atsuko Maeda, this sweetly comic film reflects the dead-end choices presented to a generation with good educations but uncertain prospects. **MIKE KEEGAN**

Written by Kôsuke Mukai. Photographed by Akiko Ashizawa, Yoshihiro Ikeuchi. With Atsuko Maeda, Suon Kan, Yasuko Tomita. (78 mins)

TRAP STREET

8:00

VIVIAN QU (CHINA, 2013)

A slow-building drama set in contemporary China, *Trap Street* has a perfect modern-noir protagonist in Li Qiuming, a naïve survey engineer who views the world through his gadgets: cell phone, GPS watch, video games. Qiuming's life takes a turn when a chance encounter leads him down a shadowy lane that yields no mapping data. Examining what it's like to be a twenty-first-century young adult—with access to the Internet and other technological conveniences—within China's surveillance state, *Trap Street* cleverly uses a simple boy-meets-girl tale to unearth a hidden world of government control lurking just under the surface. **CHERYL EDDY**

Written by Qu. Photographed by Tian Li, Matthieu Laclau. With Lu Yulai, He Wenchao, Hou Yong, Zhao Xiaofei. (94 mins)

SUNDAY / 4.27.14

THE LAST SEASON

12:30

SARA DOSA (U.S., 2014)

Every September more than two hundred seasonal workers, most of them Cambodian, Lao, Hmong, Mien, or Thai, set up a temporary camp near the tiny town of Chemult, Oregon. They remain until the first snowfall, searching the lush woods of Klamath County for the rare matsutake, a fungus highly prized in Japan. This sensitive, probing documentary examines the bond between two of these hunters, an elderly Vietnam vet and a survivor of the Khmer Rouge, in one unusually hard season. The result is a poetic film about friendship, nature, and life. **PAMELA TROY**

Photographed by Star Rosencrans. (79 mins)

WHAT NOW? REMIND ME

2:30

JOAQUIM PINTO (PORTUGAL, 2013)

Portuguese director Joaquim Pinto poetically, dynamically, and candidly chronicles an entire year of his life as he undergoes experimental treatment and clinical studies for his longtime HIV and VHC infections in this epic yet deeply personal documentary. The film takes a meta-view of HIV and other viruses and delves into the challenge of facing one's own fragility and finding unknown strength to survive. Pinto's collage-style narrative mirrors the sometimes mind-altering side effects of the drugs, traveling fluidly between past and present and provoking an examination of memory and the passage of time, and of people. **KEVIN SCHAUB**

Photographed by Nuno Leonel, Pinto. (164 mins)

SHORTS 5: EXPERIMENTAL: LOOKING GLASS

5:45

PRESENTED IN ASSOCIATION WITH SAN FRANCISCO CINEMATHEQUE

In ways quietly observant and intensely expressive, these eleven experimental films take us on a journey through the looking glass—reflecting on the past, illuminating the present, and imagining the future. A story is told backward, a girl is magically transformed, and everyday objects aren't what they seem. Two lost films are found; two others alchemically altered. **KATHY GERITZ, VANESSA O'NEILL**

QUEEN TAKES PAWN Su Friedrich, U.S., 2013, 7 mins, Color
METAMORFOZA Martha Colburn, The Netherlands, 2013, 7 mins, Color
LITTLE GIRL Bruce Baillie, U.S., 1966, 10 mins, Color/B&W, Restored in 2013 by the Academy Film Archive
DAD'S STICK John Smith, U.K., 2012, 5 mins, Color
66, EPISODE 1: ICHOR Lewis Klahr, U.S., 2013, 5:30 mins, Color
DE LUCE 2: ARCHITECTURA Janis Crystal Lipzin, U.S., 2013, 8:30 mins, Color
FARTHER THAN THE EYE CAN SEE Basma Alsharif, Jordan/United Arab Emirates, 2012, 13 mins, Color
LOST AND FOUND Jim Jennings, U.S., 1988/2013, 5 mins, Silent, B&W
ENTR'ACTE Lawrence Jordan, U.S., 2013, 3 mins, Color
A STUDY IN NATURAL MAGIC Charlotte Pryce, U.S., 2013, 3 mins, Silent, Color
BRIGHT MIRROR Paul Clipson, U.S., 2013, 9 mins, Color/B&W

Total running time: 80 mins

BLIND DATES

8:15

LEVAN KOGUASHVILI (GEORGIA, 2013)

Single at forty, schlubby Sandro (Andro Sakhvarelidze) has zero prospects for finding true love. Fate lends a hand when he runs into a hairdresser, but there's a catch: her husband is getting out of prison the next day. Levan Koguashvili's romantic tragicomedy throws any number of obstacles at its smitten hero: pregnant refugees, interfamilial feuds, DOA dates, violent gangsters. But thanks to an amazing performance by Sakhvarelidze, one never doubts that kindly Sandro will do the right thing. For those new to the Georgian New Wave, this low-key gem is a wonderful introduction. **D. FEAR**

Written by Boris Frumin. Photographed by Tato Kotetishvili. With Andro Sakhvarelidze, Ia Sukhitashvili, Archil Kikodze. (95 mins)

MONDAY / 4.28.14

BAUYR (LITTLE BROTHER)

6:30

SERIC APRYMOV (KAZAKHSTAN, 2013)

Eight-year-old Yerkin is an immensely resourceful if irascible third grader. He lives in Bulak, a small village on the steppes of Kazakhstan, where his keen observations of grown-ups are sometimes humorous and always honest. Director Seric Aprymov skillfully weaves a complex, archetypal, and slyly humorous story of good and bad brothers into the simple rhythms of Yerkin's daily life. Almat Galym's performance as Yerkin is enchanting and poignant; his struggles and longing pass over the features of his expressive young face like a breeze or a cloud floating in the wide-open Kazakh sky. **NANCY K. FISHMAN**

Written by Aprymov. Photographed by Aleksandr Rubanov. With Almat Galym, Alisher Aprymov. (97 mins)

WHEN EVENING FALLS ON BUCHAREST OR METABOLISM

8:30

CORNELIU PORUMBOIU (ROMANIA/FRANCE, 2013)

Continuing his very particular parsing of language and politics—here, the politics are cinematic—Corneliu Porumboiu (*12:08 East of Bucharest*; *Police, Adjective*) tells the story of a film director rehearsing the details of a nude scene with his lead actress. Investigating the repetitive nature of filmmaking with sly humor, *Metabolism* philosophizes about chopsticks and endoscopies along the way. Porumboiu throws down a challenge that seems aimed at true cineastes. The more you bring to it, the more you'll get out of it, as is wryly suggested when the director feigns horror at discovering his actress has never even heard of Antonioni. **DENNIS HARVEY**

Written by Porumboiu. Photographed by Tudor Mircea. With Diana Avramut, Bogdan Dumitrache, Mihaela Sirbu. (89 mins)

TUESDAY / 4.29.14

STOP THE POUNDING HEART

6:30

ROBERTO MINERVINI (U.S./BELGIUM/ITALY, 2013)

Italian director Roberto Minervini ventures deep into Texas's rural Bible belt, achieving an intimacy with his subjects so deep that it seems spiritual. This unique hybrid of documentary and narrative offers an evocative portrait of the quotidian lives of a devout young Christian goat farmer and the bull-riding cowboy who lives nearby. Capturing the natural rhythm and soul of life in Waller, Texas, the film combines ethnography and budding romance to compelling effect. The remarkable communion Minervini has achieved with his characters provides a portrait of a little-known piece of America that is deeply personal and alive. **GUSTAVUS KUNDAHL**

Photographed by Diego Romero-Suarez Llanos. With Colby Trichell, Sara Carlson. (100 mins)

THE OTHER ONE: THE LONG STRANGE TRIP OF BOB WEIR

8:50

MIKE FLEISS (U.S., 2014)

Bob Weir, "the other one," steps into the spotlight and out of Grateful Dead bandmate Jerry Garcia's shadow in this expansive documentary. Weir's reminiscences; performance footage with and without the Dead; home movies; and interviews with family, friends, bandmates, and admiring musicians blend to form a film that is part biography, part Grateful Dead history, and part portrait of a cultural moment. "Sometimes the light's all shinin' on me," the Dead sang in a signature line from "Truckin'." In this engaging doc, the light shines on Bob Weir. **MEL VALENTIN**

Photographed by Dan Friedman. (90 mins)

WEDNESDAY / 4.30.14

STRAY DOGS

6:30

TSAI MING-LIANG (TAIWAN/FRANCE, 2013)

Master filmmaker Tsai Ming-liang's work often reveals an affinity for the natural world and its elements, especially rain and water. In *Stray Dogs,* the driving rain provides a fitting backdrop for the struggle of an impoverished father and his two young children trying to survive in modern-day Taipei. Tsai takes an oblique approach to space and time, peppering the film with extreme long takes that simultaneously coax and frustrate the viewer's attention. *Stray Dogs* is a bold and often mysterious work whose tactile and sodden images investigate the emotional boundaries of privation and deep loneliness. **VERONIKA FERDMAN**

Written by Song Peng Fei, Tsai, Tung Chen Yu. Photographed by Liao Pen-jung, Sung Wen Zhong. With Lee Kang-sheng, Lee Yi-cheng, Lee Yi-chieh. (138 mins)

EASTERN BOYS

9:10

ROBIN CAMPILLO (FRANCE, 2013)

This erotically charged nail-biter takes the audience on an unexpected ride when a French businessman's life changes with a single act. Daniel, a dapper, fiftysomething Parisian, coyly cruises the Gare du Nord and awkwardly propositions a young Eastern European immigrant hustler, Marek. Soon Daniel is a regular client, and as their bond deepens, lust yields to love and concern as he comes to understand the corrosive power of Marek's network. Raising the tension and the stakes throughout the film's four chapters, Campillo deftly kicks the film into high gear with a heart-pounding finale, showcasing the film's raison d'être. **KEVIN SCHAUB**

Written by Campillo. Photographed by Jeanne Lapoirie. With Olivier Rabourdin, Kirill Emelyanov. (128 mins)

THURSDAY / 5.1.14

DIFRET

6:30

ZERESENAY BERHANE MEHARI (ETHIOPIA, 2014)

In a contemporary Ethiopian village, a fourteen-year-old girl is abducted from school in an attempt at forced marriage, a tradition in her community. Her effort to free herself from a preordained future sets off a legal firestorm in this powerful drama that pits the law against an entrenched cultural mindset. Based on a true story, *Difret*—the winner of audience awards at the Sundance and Berlin Film Festivals—is not only a compelling, suspenseful equal-rights saga, but also a hopeful, moving, and provocative drama about resilience and the pursuit of justice. **TIM SIKA**

Written by Mehari. Photographed by Monika Lenczewska. With Meron Getnet, Tizita Hagere. (96 mins)

THE MILITANT

8:50

MANOLO NIETO (URUGUAY/ARGENTINA, 2013)

A packinghouse workers' strike forms the backdrop to this coming-of-age story set during the 2002 economic crisis in Uruguay. Ariel, a leader of a university occupation in support of the strike, experiences a crisis when he inherits his father's ranch. The student revolutionary becomes the boss and finds himself responsible for paying months of back wages to the gauchos stiffed by his dad. This sensitive, multilayered film, brimming with metaphor and suggestion, was the most-awarded film at the Havana Film Festival, winning second place for best narrative feature, best cinematography, and the film critics' FIPRESCI Prize. **MIGUEL PENDÁS**

Written by Nieto. Photographed by Arauco Hernández Holz. With Felipe Dieste, Alejandro Urdapilleta, Rossana Cabrera. (121 mins)

FRIDAY / 5.2.14

HAPPINESS

6:30

THOMAS BALMÈS (FRANCE/FINLAND, 2013)

High in the snow-capped mountains of Bhutan, nine-year-old Peyangki would rather play than study in the monastery. While the wide-open outdoors is sufficient to distract the boy from the centuries-old routine of prayer and rituals, more sedentary temptations encroach: electricity is finally reaching the village, and with it television and the Internet. A trip to the capital to sell a yak and buy a TV opens Peyangki's eyes to an enticing, complicated future. This documentary's spare, eloquent imagery garnered the cinematography prize in the World Cinema Documentary competition at Sundance. **MICHAEL FOX**

Photographed by Balmès, Nina Bernfeld. (80 mins)

ALL THAT JAZZ

8:30

BOB FOSSE (U.S., 1979) DIGITAL RESTORATION!

Roy Scheider stands in for writer/director Bob Fosse in Fosse's dazzling, self-lacerating, and clearly autobiographical musical following a celebrated choreographer/director who fantasizes about his mortality as he juggles his many women, the edit of a movie, and rehearsals for a new stage production. With its arresting dance moves and show-stopping numbers that include the erotic "Take Off with Us" and the glittering, surreal "Bye Bye Life," this Best Picture Oscar nominee pulls off a neat trick, transforming the downbeat into the exuberant. **PAM GRADY**

Written by Robert Alan Aurthur, Fosse. Photographed by Giuseppe Rotunno. With Roy Scheider, Jessica Lange, Leland Palmer, Ann Reinking. (123 mins, Restored by Twentieth Century Fox in collaboration with The Film Foundation)

SATURDAY / 5.3.14

NORTE, THE END OF HISTORY

1:30

LAV DIAZ (PHILIPPINES, 2013)

Inspired by Dostoevsky's *Crime and Punishment*, art-house favorite Lav Diaz's latest epic profoundly explores everything from the state of the present-day rural Philippines to the 1890s Philippine Revolution against the Spanish. Sid Lucero gives a stunning performance as Fabian, an existential law school dropout who gets entangled in a small village's feud: as one man is wrongfully imprisoned, the actual criminal thinks he's escaped scot-free. What begins is a parallel journey in a drama that was awarded the top prize at the Nuremburg International Human Rights Film Festival. **JESSE HAWTHORNE FICKS**

Written by Diaz, Rody Vera. Photographed by Lauro Rene Manda. With Sid Lucero, Archie Alemania, Angeli Bayani, Mae Paner. (250 mins)

THREE LETTERS FROM CHINA

6:30

LUC SCHAEDLER (SWITZERLAND, 2013)

Luc Schaedler's latest work presents three distinct and illuminating portraits of contemporary life in China. Attentively observing life on a parched farm, a grim industrial zone, a rural village, and a booming megacity, the documentary reveals the upheaval and uncertainty of a rapidly changing nation. On the surface, the three depictions are transfixing and exotic, yet the themes and struggles that arise are startlingly familiar. Over tea in a simple Chongqing cafe, a man speaks passionately of the deepening divide between the rich and the poor, and the world seems to be shrinking as he speaks. **GUSTAVUS KUNDAHL**

Written, Photographed by Schaedler. (80 mins)

THE DOG

8:30

ALLISON BERG, FRANK KERAUDREN (U.S., 2013)

John Wojtowicz, whose ill-fated 1972 robbery of a Brooklyn bank to pay for his transgender bride's sex-change operation inspired Sidney Lumet's 1975 classic *Dog Day Afternoon*, recalls both the heist and his years as a gay rights activist in this engaging documentary. Wojtowicz is disarming, funny, and seemingly frank, but also the very definition of an unreliable narrator. The film employs archival footage and contemporary interviews to separate truth from fiction to get to the heart of Wojtowicz's story. Ten years in the making, *The Dog* captures the essence of Wojotwicz and his times. **PAM GRADY**

Photographed by Amanda Micheli, Nim-Rod Bachar, Wolfgang Held, Pete Ginsburg, Axel Baumann. (100 mins)

SUNDAY / 5.4.14

AGNÈS VARDA: FROM HERE TO THERE

1:30

AGNÈS VARDA (FRANCE, 2011)

Armed with her inimitable insight and ability to find beauty where one least expects it, director Agnès Varda travels to various far-flung locales in this five-part miniseries originally made for French television. Invited to cinematheques and museums to present her work, she uses the opportunities to look up old friends, interview filmmakers who interest her, or discover new artists. Throughout, Varda's empathy, curiosity, and playfulness make numerous puckish and interesting connections between her disparate points of interest. "When you look closely, things become very beautiful," Varda exclaims, and viewers will be grateful to have her as their guide. **ROD ARMSTRONG**

Photographed by Varda. (225 mins)

MANILA IN THE CLAWS OF LIGHT

6:00

LINO BROCKA (PHILIPPINES, 1975) DIGITAL RESTORATION!

Manila in the Claws of Light is one of Lino Brocka's most representative, trenchant examples of social criticism and ruthless determinism. The story describes the experiences of a provincial youth, Julio, who comes to Manila in search of his childhood sweetheart. The city is a totally destructive force and Brocka unflinchingly exposes the exploitation of construction workers, the torpid atmosphere of overcrowded slum areas, and the creeping degradation that eventually smothers all. Julio's ultimate fall from innocence is a symbol of all forgotten youth who, caught in a web of indifference, resign themselves to the limitless deafness of a world outside. **ALBERT JOHNSON, SFIFF 1980**

Written by Clodualdo Del Mundo, Jr. Photographed by Mike de Leon, Del Mundo. With Bembel Roco, Hilda Koronel, Rafael Roco, Jr., Lou Salbador, Jr. (124 mins, Restored in 2013 by the World Cinema Foundation and the Film Development Council of the Philippines at Cineteca di Bologna/L'Immagine Ritrovata laboratory, in association with LVN, Cinema Artists Philippines, and Mike de Leon)

SALVATION ARMY

8:30

ABDELLAH TAÏA (MOROCCO, 2013)

Adapting his autobiographical novel, director Abdellah Taïa tells the story of a gay Moroccan boy finding self-realization and personal strength within a society that shuns him. Telling the story through two different time periods and locales, Taïa employs long, expressive takes (shot by the brilliant Agnès Godard) that rely more on visual expression than dialogue. *Salvation Army* is not only a brave effort to tackle taboo issues in Moroccan society and find new ways to represent the queer Arab experience, it is also a compelling cinematic debut from someone whose prior work has been exclusively in prose. **ROD ARMSTRONG**

Written by Taïa. Photographed by Agnès Godard. With Said Mrini, Karim Ait M'hand, Amine Ennaji. (82 mins)

MONDAY / 5.5.14

COAST OF DEATH

6:30

LOIS PATIÑO (SPAIN, 2013)

Spain's "Coast of Death" is aptly named for its treacherous waters. The still frames of Lois Patiño's documentary give one the luxury of contemplating this storied place, of noticing the shifts in cloud formations or the ceaseless crashing of waves against the rocks as small human figures shield themselves against the force of the oncoming water. Although Patiño touches on the tempestuous relationship between people (and people's machines) and nature, with each side able to scar the other, *Coast of Death* refuses reductive polemics in favor of a nobly expansive presentation of a specific topographic point. **VERONIKA FERDMAN**

Photographed by Patiño. (81 mins)

ART AND CRAFT

8:40

SAM CULLMAN, JENNIFER GRAUSMAN, MARK BECKER (U.S., 2013)

A philanthropist, a grieving brother, and a Jesuit priest are among the personas and aliases Mark Landis has created over a span of thirty years. One of the most prolific art forgers in U.S. history, Landis used his disguises to dupe more than forty museums across twenty states with an impressive array of ingeniously crafted fake masterpieces—works he always donated, never sold. This documentary examines Landis's curious life. While posing questions around the definition of art and the value of authenticity, *Art and Craft* ultimately becomes a captivating study of our fundamental desire for recognition and acceptance. **JULIA BARBOSA**

Photographed by Cullman. (89 mins)

TUESDAY / 5.6.14

RETURN TO HOMS

6:30

TALAL DERKI (SYRIA/GERMANY, 2013)

Filmed between 2011 and 2013, this dispatch from the besieged Syrian city of Homs transmits a visceral eyewitness account of a peaceful uprising descending into civil war and idealistic youths coming of age as armed revolutionaries. As the siege tightens, the film stays within the narrowing horizons of the rebels, who talk more fervently of martyrdom the more they perceive that the world has forsaken them. Director Talal Derki refuses the pretense of journalistic objectivity, sharing in his subjects' grief and outrage. Part elegy, part call to action, the film won the World Cinema Grand Jury Prize for Documentary at Sundance. **JULIET CLARK**

Photographed by Kahtan Hassoun, Ossama al Homsi, Derki, Orwa Nyrabia. (87 mins)

TANGERINES 8:30

ZAZA URUSHADZE (ESTONIA/GEORGIA, 2013)

An old man caught in the brutal 1992 conflict over the Abkhazia region of Georgia finds himself nursing two wounded soldiers from opposing sides in his small house. Gorgeously filmed in a mountainous coastal area of Georgia, Zaza Urushadze's intense and compelling antiwar drama is an astute and captivating history lesson about a little-known conflict. Unexpected humor occasionally pops up as the tension builds, but the inevitable climax is intense, powerful, and surprising. *Tangerines* would be a strong and insightful film in any context; recent events in the Ukraine make it especially relevant today. **GUSTAVUS KUNDAHL**

Written by Urushadze. Photographed by Rein Kotov. With Lembit Ulfsak, Raivo Trass, Giorgi Nakashidze. (84 mins)

WEDNESDAY / 5.7.14

BAD HAIR 6:30

MARIANA RONDÓN (VENEZUELA/PERU, 2013)

In a Caracas tenement high-rise, Marta is raising two children alone. Broke and desperate, she finds a focal point for her frustrations: her ten-year-old son Junior's curious new determination to straighten his frizzy interracial hair. Mariana Rondón's prizewinning feature addresses potent issues of economic pressure and homophobia within the family unit. She displays a fine understanding of the unspoken tensions that can create a divide—and the occasional words said in anger that can seal it. *Bad Hair* is a finely acted, deceptively small-scale drama that subtly works its way toward a big impact. **DENNIS HARVEY**

Written by Rondón. Photographed by Micaela Cajahuaringa. With Samuel Lange, Samantha Castillo, Nelly Ramos, Beto Benites. (93 mins)

HISTORY OF FEAR 8:45

BENJAMÍN NAISHTAT (ARGENTINA/FRANCE/GERMANY/QATAR/URUGUAY, 2014)

In a fast-food restaurant, a disturbed young man contorts his body and paralyzes onlookers as if they were hostages at gunpoint. At a tollbooth, a naked stranger steps in front of a car and its occupants react like he is a suicide bomber. A fence surrounding an affluent Buenos Aires suburb is breached and the residents are certain that some threat will slip through. Paranoia runs rampant in Benjamín Naishtat's thriller, instilling a disorienting dread. Naishtat foregoes ready explanations in favor of foreboding suggestions in a film that is sprawling in scope and implications but astonishingly exacting in execution. **CURTIS WOLOSCHUK**

Written by Naishtat. Photographed by Soledad Rodríguez. With Jonathan Da Rosa, Tatiana Giménez, Mirella Pascual, Claudia Cantero. (79 mins)

THURSDAY / 5.8.14

THE DUNE 6:30

YOSSI AVIRAM (FRANCE/ISRAEL, 2013)

Yossi Aviram's unusually assured and moving first feature portrays the personal crises faced by an aging gay cop in France and a younger Israeli man who is found on the beach, mute and without any identification. Aviram's sensitive direction guides his intriguing protagonists through a series of quietly introspective scenes, allowing them time and space to achieve self-understanding never forced by plot machinations. With its mature take on the challenges and rewards of aging gracefully, reckoning with the past, and basking in everyday pleasures, *The Dune* is a deeply wise and satisfying debut. **STEVEN JENKINS**

Written by Aviram. Photographed by Antoine Héberlé. With Niels Arestrup, Lior Askenazi, Emma de Caunes, Guy Marchand. (87 mins)

THE AMAZING CATFISH 8:45

CLAUDIA SAINTE-LUCE (MEXICO, 2013)

In Claudia Sainte-Luce's debut feature, the worlds of a rambunctious matriarchy and a withdrawn misfit collide and combine in a moving reflection on living and dying with courage. Solitary Claudia makes an unexpected connection with a fellow hospital patient, single mother Martha, and eventually becomes a quietly integral part of Martha's rough-and-tumble household. Confidently photographed by Agnès Godard, this spare but colorful film—set in Guadalajara and based loosely on events from Sainte-Luce's own life—embraces the inclination to define a family as the people you choose and are chosen by, not necessarily the ones you're born to. **NICOLE GLUCKSTERN**

Written by Sainte-Luce. Photographed by Agnès Godard. With Ximena Ayala, Lisa Owen, Sonia Franco, Wendy Guillén. (89 mins)

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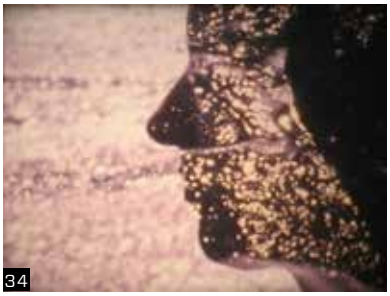
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SF 57 INTERNATIONAL FF

THE 57TH ANNUAL SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

APR 25 – MAY 8

BAM/PFA

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General admission: $15
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Please note that our second-feature discount does not apply to these programs. Tickets are nonrefundable, and may not be exchanged.

CineVouchers may not be redeemed in person at the PFA Theater.

TICKET, PROGRAM, & MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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1. *All About the Feathers*, 4.25.14
2. *Manuscripts Don't Burn*, 4.25.14
3. *The Seventh Walk*, 4.26.14
4. *We Come as Friends*, 4.26.14
5. *Tamako in Moratorium*, 4.26.14
6. *Trap Street*, 4.26.14
7. *The Last Season*, 4.27.14
8. *What Now? Remind Me*, 4.27.14
9. *Blind Dates*, 4.27.14
10. *Bauyr (Little Brother)*, 4.28.14
11. *When Evening Falls on Bucharest or Metabolism*, 4.28.14
12. *Stop the Pounding Heart*, 4.29.14
13. *The Other One: The Long Strange Trip of Bob Weir*, 4.29.14
14. *Stray Dogs*, 4.30.14
15. *Eastern Boys*, 4.30.14
16. *Difret*, 5.1.14
17. *The Militant*, 5.1.14
18. *Happiness*, 5.2.14
19. *All That Jazz*, 5.2.14
20. *Norte, the End of History*, 5.3.14
21. *Three Letters from China*, 5.3.14
22. *The Dog*, 5.3.14
23. *Agnès Varda: From Here to There*, 5.4.14
24. *Manila in the Claws of Light*, 5.4.14
25. *Salvation Army*, 5.4.14
26. *Coast of Death*, 5.5.14
27. *Art and Craft*, 5.5.14
28. *Return to Homs*, 5.6.14
29. *Tangerines*, 5.6.14
30. *Bad Hair*, 5.7.14
31. *History of Fear*, 5.7.14
32. *The Dune*, 5.8.14
33. *The Amazing Catfish*, 5.8.14
34. *Bright Mirror*, 4.27.14
35. *De Luce 2: Architectura*, 4.27.14