

Regina Fringe Festival, August 2005

Student Film Program 1

Cursing the Threshold, defying physical and cultural boundaries.

Curated by Gerald Saul

The film projects chosen for this program each explore the some aspect of being an outsider, of being part of another culture, another species, or in some way not fitting into the “normal” world. The first film, “Four Walls” features filmmaker Sean Flotre in all roles as various antisocial/agoraphobic individuals each living in adjoining apartments. Through clever editing, composition, and lighting, we simultaneously believe in the insurmountable separations that exist between these characters, and recognize that they are never able to achieve their goal of complete isolation. We are never alone. The second film, Mark Montague’s “Raw Style” is a study of three aspects of hip hop culture. Again, all figures performing different actions, each in isolation, yet unified in their freedom from the mainstream. Chad Hudson’s short video “Warm Heart, Warm Hands” walks the mysterious edge between the sublime and the puerile. Kevin Drysdale’s “Battery Blues” takes alienation literally as his animated anti-hero will do anything for rock and roll. With “Growing Curve”, Jill Tilley uses a simple voice over monologue to relate an abridged tale of her life as a barking misfit. The abstracted close-up of a crystal, a shot that makes up the entire film, reinforces the intimacy but reminds us that even the most honest story remains only an unclear fragment. “Bone” by Ayako Onishi embraces the scratched and damaged look of hand-processed film to further alienate us from the troubled life a Japanese girl obsessed with stealing human bones from funerals, the melancholy character’s self exile condemning her to watch society from its fringes. The final film, Jon Tewksbury’s “So What’s the Deal, the Jody Fulkerson Story” is a masterpiece of improvisational “comedy” as the documentary film crew conduct a series of interviews with an unfortunate series of people who believe themselves to be far, far more talented than they are. The title character is a misfit only from the realm of the famous and the talented. He is, unfortunately, just like most of us; an average man lying to himself. If he is an outsider, then aren’t we all?

Four Walls, your personal bubble	Sean Flotre	6 minutes, 2004
Raw Style	Mark Montague	4 minutes, 2002
Warm Heart, Warms Hands	Chad Hudson	4 minutes, 2004
Battery Blues	Kevin Drysdale	5 minutes, 2005
Growing Curve	Jill Tilley	3 minutes, 2005
Bone	Ayako Onishi	18 minutes, 2004
So What’s The Deal	Jon Tewksbury	18 minutes, 2003

All projects in this program were created by film and video students in the Department of Media Production and Studies at the University of Regina.

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Student Film Program 2

Pieces of the Heart, the emotional lost and found department

Curated by Gerald Saul

I chose these films for the emotional issues they deal with, some in a serious way, some in a comical way. Regardless of the approach, these students managed to convey something about the secrets of our hearts in a unique way. “The Face”, acted and directed by Jason Shabatoski, strikes to the core of obsession, of the love that cannot be quelled. Adam Budd’s “Avery Jones” is an earnest attempt to capture the difficulty and confusion when a person must face the troubling contradictions inherent in friendship, when someone finally tells us to *grow up*. “Waking Tansy” is a visual treat as Jill Tilley draws us into a somewhat magical, somewhat mundane world of Tansy’s mind, a girl chased by unseen wolves towards a past that never existed. In “This is a Film about my Grandparents”, Kevin Drysdale opens a door into thoughts that only the bravest of us share, the *honest* aversion to our own family. “Ingoting” is a curious and confusing homage (or is it a satire?) of the emotionally heavy films of Ingmar Bergman. Translated into Swedish, this film is unrelentingly distancing, but strangely funny. Drew Reimer’s animated film about Charlie will sneak up on you with its collision of innocence, intelligence, and uncouth mayhem. The show concludes with Courtney Gillen’s “Joe and Wendy”, another film about people too close to ourselves, the average Joe’s and Wendy’s, who face the insurmountable task of life, every day, and sometimes lose hope that there might be more.

The Face	Jason Shabatoski	3 minutes, 2003
Avery Jones	Adam Budd	9 minutes, 2003
Waking Tansy	Jill Tilley	22 minutes, 2005
A Film about my Grandparents	Kevin Drysdale	3 minutes, 2005
Ingoting	Kate Dallin	9 minutes, 2004
Charlie’s Lovely Date	Drew Reimer	8 minutes, 2005
Joe and Wendy	Courtney Gillen	15 minutes, 2004

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