



REEL FUN FILM FESTIVAL 2010 ANNOUNCES LINE-UP

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(Calgary - January 19, 2010) **The Reel Fun Film Festival** invites you to join us for our exciting 2010 showcasing of Canadian and international films produced exclusively for family viewing.

This year's festival launches on Family Day, Feb 15, 2010, with an all-day family event at The Cardel Theatre (10-4), featuring two shorts series (11:00am & 1:30pm) and multiple interactive booths where you can learn how to edit and shoot movies, make animated flicks, handle reptile and canine stars, and apply Emmy-worthy special effects makeup.

Feb 16-20, 2010, screenings will take place at the Eau Claire Cineplex/Odeon with films from Australia (*Broken Hill*), Germany (*Moonbeam Bear and His Friends* and *The Crocodiles*), Finland (*The Letter for the King*), India (*7 Days in Slow Motion*), South Africa (*Jungle Beat*), the UK (*Afghan Star*), and the USA (*What's On Your Plate?*). The majority of these films are premiering here in Canada for the very first time!

Broken Hill, the film scheduled to close the festival at The Plaza (Feb 21), is one of the films enjoying its Canadian premiere. We are especially pleased to announce that *Broken Hill*'s producer, Chris Wyatt (of *Napoleon Dynamite* fame!) and its director, Dagen Merrill, will be in town for the closing gala and for an exclusive Q&A screening of the film at Eau Claire (Feb 19).

To learn more about this unique and popular film festival, visit <http://www.reelfunfilmfest.com>. You can also follow us on Twitter: [@reelfunfilmfest](https://twitter.com/reelfunfilmfest), and join our FaceBook Group: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=46081573129>.

FILM SYNOPSES:

Afghan Star (UK 2009 | English | 87 min | G)

This award-winning documentary by Havana Marking follows four young Afghans as they risk everything, including their lives, to become Afghanistan's most popular entertainer on the country's revolutionary American Idol-style TV series, *Afghan Star*.

Broken Hill (USA-Australia, 2009 | English | 102 min | PG)

Tommy dreams of a career as a musician and conductor, but where to find an orchestra in the parched Australian Outback? Produced by Chris Wyatt of *Napoleon Dynamite* fame, *Broken Hill* shows how dreams can find nourishment in the most unlikely of places.

The Crocodiles (Germany 2009 | English Subtitles | 92 min | 14A)

When kids get together, life is sure to get interesting, even in a quiet German suburb! The kids who make up the Crocodile gang are resourceful and courageous, especially when it comes to busting a criminal ring and cracking a most mysterious case.



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Gerald's Last Day (USA | English | 11:30 min | G)

Gerald the Dog is scheduled for termination by the dog pound at 5pm. Today is his last chance to seduce an adopter ... can he do it before his time runs out? A short stop motion animated film by Shel and Justin Rasch.

Jungle Beat (South Africa | English | 30 min | G)

A series of 5-minute animated shorts introduce us to a bunch of different animals and the bizarre things they do. There's a bee who's allergic to pollen, a giraffe who's afraid of heights, a frog who keeps losing his voice, and much much more!

The Letter for the King (Finland 2008 | English Subtitles | 78 min | G)

Tiuri risks his chance of full knighthood and his very life to carry a secret letter to the King of Unauwen. His mission is fraught with danger at every turn in this heart-stopping epic adventure of courage and intrigue.

Listen to the Children – A Journey of Sharing (Canada | English | 9 min | G)

Fundraiser extraordinaire, Logan MacGillivray of Nova Scotia, is working hard to make a difference in the lives of children in Sierra Leone. So far his efforts have raised more than \$9,000 for this important cause. This is Logan's film.

Lost in the Woods: The Movie (USA | English | 30 min | G)

Fernando Hernandafandavez, a little racoon, gets horribly lost in the forest. An old box turtle named Shirley comes to his aid, and, in return, Fernando helps Shirley and the other forest animals find the lost newborn fawn.

Magellan (USA | English | 18 min | G)

Magellan and Tiana share much in common as middle school classmates in industrial Atlanta. However, can their precarious friendship weather the storm unleashed by Magellan asking Tiana to the upcoming Spring Dance?

The Misadventures of Milo Weatherby (USA 2009 | English | 23 min | G)

Milo Weatherby is the next Thomas Edison ... or at least he'd like to think he is! There's just one problem – Milo's inventions don't always work the way they're meant to. Take the "reverse microwave," for example, which turns out to be a time machine!

Moonbeam Bear and His Friends (Germany 2008 | English | 69 mins | G)

A tumble lands Mr. Moon on the forest floor where he is rescued by Moonbeam Bear. Comfortable eating honey cakes and playing checkers, Mr. Moon seems content to stay in the forest until the other forest animals, tired of the dark, intervene.

Paper Princes, Gypsies, and the Boy with No Return Address (Canada 2009 | English | 7 min | G)

Liam Willow Plinkett's imagination runs wilder than a stampede of buffalo being chased by pterodactyls. Abandoned in a willow tree as a baby, 10-year-old Liam is searching for his identity in a film about imagination, bullying, wanting to belong, and friendship.

Plain and Simple (USA 2008 | English | 24 min | G)

A children's book come to life, this short film addresses the plight of Pauly, a little penguin threatened with removal from the zoo that is his home simply because he doesn't generate enough interest to guarantee profits.



Ricky Rapper (Finland 2008 | English Subtitles | 78 min | G)

Ricky is content playing drums and living with his aunt Serena. Then everything changes. Nelly Butterfly, a girl who lives in the same apartment building as Ricky, enters Ricky's life, as does his Aunt Fanny who absolutely hates drumming!

The Riddle in a Bottle (USA | English | 30 min | G)

Siblings Laura and Robert (a.k.a. "The Riddle Solvers") run a stand solving riddles for 5 cents a piece. One day a mysterious riddle from the ocean reaches them on an inland lake ... a riddle carried in a magic bottle.

7 Days in Slow Motion (India 2009 | English Subtitles | 100 min | G)

Much to his middle-class mother's chagrin, Ravi Suri aspires more to Bollywood fame than to academic success. As Ravi navigates a path to Bollywood, we get to explore many aspects of Indian culture from class structure stigmas to child marriage.

What's On Your Plate? (USA 2009 | English | 76 min | G)

A pair of 11-year-old multiracial city kids unravel their place in the food chain, asking critical questions about where their food comes from in this witty and provocative documentary by award-winning producer and director, Catherine Gund.

The Reel Fun Film Festival is a not-for-profit film festival that provides curriculum-oriented film education and international screenings. Its founders recognized a need for a family-focused film festival that would inspire Alberta children and youth to become the filmmakers of tomorrow. We continue to promote movies that open minds to cultural diversity, emotional intelligence, and media literacy.

To learn more about this unique and popular film festival, visit <http://www.reelfunfilmfest.com>. You can also follow us on Twitter: [@reelfunfilmfest](https://twitter.com/reelfunfilmfest), and join our FaceBook Group: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=46081573129>.

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To schedule interviews with festival director, Cathy McKee, *Broken Hill* producer, Chris Wyatt, and *Broken Hill* director, Dagen Merrill, please contact us directly.

Press passes and on-site accreditation may be arranged as required.

Website www.reelfunfilmfest.com

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