

## 2010 FILM GUIDE

*Click on the film name to view a trailer of the film (where available).*

### [A Joke](#) (13m, USA)

Director Andy Brown

Romantic Comedy

Bryce and Nadia, a young couple, have been dating for about 3 months when Bryce decides to bring Nadia to his favorite sledding hill. After much persuasion, Nadia agrees to ride with him down the steepest slope on the hill. While barreling down the treacherous path, Bryce whispers something in Nadia's ear, creating a mystery that is revealed years later.

### [Bodhisattva](#) (87m, India, USA)

Director San Banarje

Drama

Maya shares a curious relationship with her father, Bodhisattva. They are close, but she is unable to forgive him for her mother's suicide. When she comes to Calcutta from the U.S., instead of staying with him, she stays with an old classmate Anu and her husband Avik. What starts as a fun visit, soon turns into a psychological battle that peaks to a shattering climax. A story about human relationships encircling ego, pride, power and obsession, this film takes a look at a modern dysfunctional family in urban India.

**Special Guest: Director and Actor San Banarje. Q&A with audience**

### [Caoineadh "Lament"](#) (7m, USA)

Director Toby Woskow

Romance, Travel

An unusual love story that takes place in Dublin, Ireland.

### [Corner Plot](#) (10m, USA)

Director Ian Cook and Andre Dahlman

Documentary

Amid the tangle of commuter traffic, shopping malls and office buildings that define life inside the beltway rests a one-acre piece of farmland under the care of 89-year-old Charlie Koiner. With the help of his only daughter, Charlie continues to work his land, share his produce, and enjoy the farm life he's always known. "Corner Plot" explores one man's steadfast authenticity in a changing world.

**Special Guests: Directors Ian Cook & Andre Dahlman Q&A with audience.**

### [The Cycle](#) (18m, USA)

Director Roy Clovis

Drama

Crystal, a loving wife and mother, is the owner of a charming neighborhood bookstore in Brooklyn. Her eight year-old daughter, Corinne, enjoys spending midsummer afternoons playing in front of the store. But the tranquility of a beautiful day unravels when a teenage boy steals her bicycle. While Crystal's decision to call the police is seen as a betrayal by some of her neighbors, others choose to join the search. As events unfold, underlying tensions caused by economic disparities begin to surface. Will the search for a child's bicycle unite this fragile community or ignite a conflict that could blow it apart?

### **The Desperate (33m, USA)**

Director Ben-Hur Sepehr

Drama

On a rainy night near a concentration camp being bombed during the waning years of WWII, the son of a top ranking and fearsome Nazi General is mortally wounded. With the camp's doctor having been transferred to the Eastern front, the only doctor available to perform the life saving surgery is a condemned, elderly Jewish inmate at the camp.

### **Examined Life (88m, Canada)**

Director Astra Taylor

Documentary

"Examined Life" pulls philosophy out of academic journals and classrooms and puts it back on the streets. Filmmaker Astra Taylor accompanies some of today's most influential thinkers on a series of unique excursions through places and spaces that hold particular resonance for them and their ideas.

### **Faubourg Tremé: The Untold Story of Black New Orleans (68m, USA)**

Director Dawn Logsdon

Documentary

Long before Hurricane Katrina, writer Lolis Eric Elie and filmmaker Dawn Logsdon—two native New Orleanians – began documenting the rich, living culture of Faubourg Tremé's historic neighborhood—origin of the southern rights movement and the birthplace of jazz.

### **Finding Time (10m, USA)**

Director Ivan Kander

Drama

Harris, a young scientist, spends every waking hour attempting to crack the secret of time travel. He has let his research and work consume his life. On one particular night, Harris encounters a future version of himself who attempts to explain the importance of appreciating the time we are given, suggesting that instead of struggling to control time, perhaps it is better to simply appreciate it.

**Special Guest: Director Ivan Kander. Q&A with audience.**

### **Fred and Vinnie (90m, USA)**

Director Steve Skrovan

Comedy

Vinnie, a happy agoraphobic, lives vicariously through Fred, his bewildered, isolated friend. Since Vinnie hardly leaves his apartment, everything Fred does is an exciting adventure: be it going to the post office, the video store, or on a wacky date. Vinnie is the adoring parent Fred never had.

**Special Guest: Writer and Actor Fred Stoller. Q&A with audience.**

### **Grass Roots (88m, USA)**

Director: Jeffrey Daniels

Documentary

An entertaining look at the battle that ensued in Las Vegas over a ballot initiative to approve the regulation and taxation of marijuana. In a place where almost everything is legal not all vices are treated equally. See what happens when a modern political campaign runs into law-and-order on the Vegas Strip.

**Special Guests: Producer Joe Cantwell and Dr. Ann Pritchard, former senior analyst in the White House Drug Policy Office. Q&A with audience.**

**Griefwalker (70m, Canada)**

Director Tim Wilson

Documentary

Stephen Jenkinson has been called the Angel of Death. Whether sitting at the bedside of a dying woman, or speaking to clinicians dedicated to delaying death, Jenkinson bears a message that many do not want to hear: death is not something to be denied or avoided but “befriended” and grief is not an emotion, but a skill.

**Special Guest: Stephen Jenkinson. Q&A with audience.**

**Home from the War: The Voices of Vietnam (56m, USA)**

Director Randall Wilson

Documentary

A story of veterans forty years after the Vietnam War now fighting a government that doesn't care, a society that forgot them and the ghosts of war that are fought every day. Featuring the Doobie Brothers, Shad Meshad, Bobby Muller and Vietnam veterans form every walk of life. A cautionary tale that asks us how will we treat our veterans returning from today's wars?

**Jaffa (106m, Israel)**

Director Keren Yedaya

Drama

In the heart of Jaffa, Reuven's garage is a family business. His daughter Mali and his son Meir, as well as Toufik, a young Palestinian, work there. No one suspects that Mali and Toufik have been in love for years. As the two lovers secretly make wedding arrangements, explosive tension builds between Meir and Toufik.

**Kavi (19m, India, USA)**

Director Gregg Helvey

Drama

Did you know slavery still exists? There's more slavery today than in the entire 400 years of the transatlantic slave trade. Kavi is a boy in India who wants to play cricket and go to school, but instead he is forced to work in a brick kiln as a modern-day slave. Unsatisfied with his fate, Kavi must either accept what he's always been told, or fight for a different life.

**Khudakushi – Birds of Prey (65m, India)**

Director Rakesh Mehta

Drama

A story about two young Muslim men living in Mumbai, India and their terrorist plot to blast their way out of the society that suffocates them.

**The Killing of Mary Surratt (19m, USA)**

Director Chris King

Documentary

Boardinghouse owner Mary Surratt was one of four Southern sympathizers who was tried, convicted and executed for conspiring to assassinate President Lincoln. Believed by many to have been innocent, she was nevertheless doomed to be the first woman executed by the federal government. Was the widow Surratt truly guilty of the crime, or just a busy mother and innkeeper in the wrong place at the wrong time? While the film's aim is to leave it for you to decide, it will ultimately remind you of the dangers of mass hysteria, criminal profiling, and trigger-happy vengeance following a national tragedy.

**Kings** (7m, USA)

Director Barbara Mones

Animation

Two old men traveling on a train together engage in an escalating conflict that they try to resolve by playing the card game WAR. They then dominate the only innocent victims they can find. Kings poses the question: 'is War inevitable?'

**L’Affaire Farewell** (113m, France)

Director Christian Carion

In 1981, a KGB Colonel, disenchanted with what the Communist ideal has become, decides he is going to change the world. Making contact with a French civil engineer working in Moscow, he passes documents containing the most important USSR secrets about the U.S. A tense drama that involves Ronald Reagan and François Mitterrand and pits the communist version of “Deep Throat” against the Cold War. Was he trying to save the world or only his son? Based on a true story, “Farewell” is an espionage film about events that changed history. Advisory: Language, not appropriate for young audiences.

French, Russian with English subtitles

**Leading Ladies** (102m, USA)

Director Erika Randall Beahm, Daniel Beahm

Romantic Comedy

A zany comedy about two sisters, their gay best friend, and their overzealous stage mom. When one sister gets pregnant and the other plans to waltz out of the closet, the family must hustle to maintain their status quo in the harsh arena of competitive dance.

**Special Guests: Actresses Melanie LaPatin and Laurel Vail, Actor Benji Schwimmer. Q&A with audience.**

**Leka med Dockor – “An Affair with Dolls”** (11m, Sweden)

Director Hans Montelius

Drama

Hanna is left alone in a penthouse apartment with a box of dolls. When her boyfriend returns to her, things take a serious turn.

**Letter Home** (9m, Canada)

Director Ken Pak

Drama

In times of trouble, home is only a letter away. There was only one person who understood the hell William Kemp went through... and when history repeats, William will be the one who will have to understand.

**Lift** (10m, USA)

Director Ann Marie Allison

Romantic Comedy

Maggie is a bespectacled filing clerk. Clark is a confident corporate executive. Maggie knows they have a special connection, if only she can get Clark to notice her. To get close to him, Maggie coordinates their daily ride up in the elevator, hoping today's the day he will realize they're meant for each other. But when another, more stylish woman grabs Clark's attention, Maggie decides it's time to change, and she devises a plan to finally stand out.

**Special Guest: Director Ann Marie Allison. Q&A with audience.**

**[Living Downstream](#)** (55m, USA)

Director Chanda Chevannes

Documentary

Based on the acclaimed book by ecologist and cancer survivor Sandra Steingraber, PhD., “Living Downstream” is an eloquent and cinematic feature-length documentary following Sandra during one pivotal year as she works to break the silence about cancer and shine a light on its environmental links.

**[Mad City Chickens](#)** (78m, USA)

Director [Tashai Lovington](#), [Robert Lughai](#)

Documentary

Mad City Chickens started out as a group of like-minded, pro-poultry people (also known as the “poultry underground”). This is a film aimed at educating the urban population on the benefits of raising one’s own food, and to bring to light the misconceptions people might have about the raising of poultry in an urban setting. Mad City Chickens offers an introductory class in citizen activism and for those who are interested in raising birds in their own backyard.

**[Meisjes – The Over the Hill Band](#)** (93m, Belgium)

Director Geoffrey Enthoven

Upon the death of her husband, Claire decides to reconnect with her estranged son, down and out R&B musician Sid. She asks him to help her restart the popular girl group she used to sing in with two of her friends from the old days. Sid would rather drown in the North Sea but eventually agrees under one condition: the band has to play HIS music.

Advisory: language, not appropriate for young audiences

Flemish with English subtitles

**[My Tale of Two Cities](#)** (85m, USA)

Filmed in the style of “Super Size Me” and “Roger & Me”, “My Tale of Two Cities” is a funny and heartfelt movie that tells the comeback story of “St. Elmo’s Fire” screenwriter Carl Kurlander, who moved back to the real-life “Mister Rogers Neighborhood” only to find both himself and his hometown of Pittsburgh in a mid-life crisis.

**[Race to Nowhere](#)** (85m, USA)

Director Vicki Abeles

Abeles turns the personal political, igniting a national conversation in her new documentary about the pressures faced by American schoolchildren and their teachers in a system and culture obsessed with the illusion of achievement, competition and the pressure to perform.

**[Ride the Divide](#)** (80m, USA)

Director Hunter Weeks

Documentary

An inspiring journey about the world’s toughest mountain bike race, which traverses 2700 miles along the Continental Divide in the Rocky Mountains. The film weaves three characters’ experiences with immense mountain beauty and small town culture as they all attempt to pedal from Banff, Canada to the Mexican border.

**Special Guests: Director Hunter Weeks and Producer Joe Cantrell**

**[The River Why](#)** (101m, USA)

Director [Matthew Leutwyler](#)

Drama

Set on the banks of a wild river, *The River Why* is the story of 20-year-old [Gus Orviston](#), considered the Mozart of flyfishing, who leaves his big city home in rebellion from his family to live in a secluded cabin on the banks of a wild river. Instead of finding fishing bliss, his desolation drives him on a reluctant quest for self-discovery. In the process he comes in contact with [an assortment of eccentric characters](#) who help him in his journey to adulthood. Most of all, *The River Why* is a love story – the love of a man for the wilderness, and for a beautiful woman who comes to share it with him. Based on the wildly popular novel by David James Duncan.

**The Smallest Thing** (3m, Canada)

Director Yong Jin Kim

Animation

A man in an empty world comes upon a flower and discovers its value.

**[Steamboat Bill, Jr.](#)** (70m, USA)

Director [Charles Reisner](#)

Pianist Andrew Simpson

*Silent classic film, with live piano accompaniment*

*Steamboat Bill, Jr.* contains some of Buster Keaton's best and most spectacular sight gags in a silent movie. Keaton plays Willie Canfield, the namby-pamby son of rough-and-tumble steamboat captain Steamboat Bill Canfield (Ernest Torrence). When he's not trying to make a man out of his boy, the captain is carrying on a feud with Tom Carter (Tom McGuire), the wealthy owner of a fancy new ferryboat. Carter has a pretty daughter, Mary King (Marion Byron), with whom Willie falls in love.

**Threads** (8m, USA)

Director Mike Jackson

Animation

Set in Mongolia, *Threads* is about a young girl who comes to terms with her mother's death by reliving their most cherished and loving times together. Lush, visual storytelling at its best.

**[Two Hours in the Dark](#)** (35m, USA)

Director Chip Hackler

Drama

Blindsided by the success of his comedy, "It Happened One Night," which swept the 1935 Oscars, director Frank Capra became crippled with fear. Convinced his next film would fail, he deteriorated to the brink of death—until the day a mysterious stranger showed up, changing Capra's life, and films, forever. Did this experience inspire "It's a Wonderful Life? You decide.

**[Una Caja de Botones – "A Box of Buttons"](#)** (20m, Spain)

Director Maria Reyes Arias

Drama

Andres cannot possibly afford the presents his daughter wants for Christmas. That makes him tell his daughter the truth about the tradition of the Three Wise Men (the Spanish version of Santa Claus). This revelation launches them on a voyage of emotional discovery.

**[Up Under the Roof](#)** (20m, USA)

Director Darin Read

Drama

During the dustbowl era on a dilapidated farm, a lonely ten-year-old boy begins hearing strange noises above his bedroom ceiling at night. The noises grow threatening as the thing in the attic

becomes restless and hungry. Through a friendship with a visually impaired girl, he comes to understand that he must face this thing hiding up under the roof before it consumes him.

**Virtuoso: The Olga Samaroff Story** (61m, USA)

Director Donna Kline

Documentary

Virtuoso, a 60-minute documentary film, is the true, yet untold story of one of America's great female concert pianists of the early 20th century. Overshadowed by her famous husband, Leopold Stokowski, whose talent she first recognized and career she fostered, Samaroff was at the very center of a vibrant American musical life in the early 20th century. Based on the book, "An American Virtuoso on the World Stage," this documentary follows her life from Texas (as Lucy Hickenlooper) to her rise as Olga Samaroff, the celebrated concert star of her time.

**Voices in the Clouds** (77m, Taiwan, USA)

Director Chris Bremer

Documentary

An Asian-American man journeys to discover the spirit and heritage of his deceased mother, uncovering the wonders of an ancient tribal culture in Taiwan... a vibrant culture on the verge of vanishing into history books.

**Workhorse** (12m, United Kingdom)

Director Adrian Tanner

Drama

Hard working financial analyst, Liz, goes on an Internet date and is drugged. She wakes up in a hotel with vague memories of being raped. Back at work, she tries to trace the man, John, on the Internet with no success, but one night she sees him on the tube. Liz follows John to a pub, where she sees him meet with another girl from her office. She follows them to a hotel, where she finds out what really happened to her.