

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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1st Annual Kern Projections Film Festival Films and Schedule Announced

Bakersfield, CA. Thirty-eight films, ranging from 1-hour-plus documentaries and fictional films to 3-minute music videos, will be shown at the 1st annual Kern Projections Film Festival, October 10-14 at the Spotlight Theater in Bakersfield. The films and videos were selected out of more than 70 submissions from across the U.S. and Ireland. Several submissions from Kern County filmmakers will be shown at the festival.

The festival will screen films in the categories of fiction, documentary, animation, and music videos. The first film to be shown at the festival will be *Behind Forgotten Eyes*, a documentary directed by Anthony Gilmore which candidly looks at the legacy of the use of 200,000 Korean girls and women as sex slaves by the Japanese during World War II. *Behind Fogotten Eyes* will show on Thursday, Oct. 11 at 6 p.m.

Two other films featured at the festival are *Handmade Puppet Dreams III*, an animated film by Michelle Rene Bousquet and produced by Heather Hensen, daughter of Muppet Creator Jim Hensen, that compiles the work of independent artists and their handmade crafts created for the camera and *Speed Dating*, a fictional film by Irish director Tony Herbert, about the obsessions and perils of speed dating. Brandon Trost,

a young filmmaker from Frazier Park will have a music video and two fiction films shown at the festival. Thirty-three other films and videos by national and local filmmakers are described on the festival web site at <http://www.kernprojections.com>.

Two-hour screenings will be held Thursday and Friday nights beginning with the first screening at 6 p.m. Saturday screenings will be held throughout the day beginning at 10 a.m. and screenings will begin on Sunday at 1 p.m. The complete screening schedule and descriptions of films can be found on the festival web site at <http://www.kernprojections.com/schedule.htm>.

Tickets can be purchased through the mail BEFORE Oct. 4. Beginning Oct. 9 tickets can be purchased at the Spotlight Theater. A ticket order form for the screenings and festival events is available on the festival web site at <http://www.kernprojections.com/boxoffice.htm>.

Submissions were screened throughout the summer by 39 members of the Bakersfield community. Expert judges selected the winners in the submission categories. Winners will be announced at the festival awards dinner on Sunday, Oct. 14 at the Metro Galleries in downtown Bakersfield. The best local entry will receive \$1000 donated by the Bakersfield Californian.

For more information about the festival, contact Shirley Kirkendall at 661-578-0171.

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