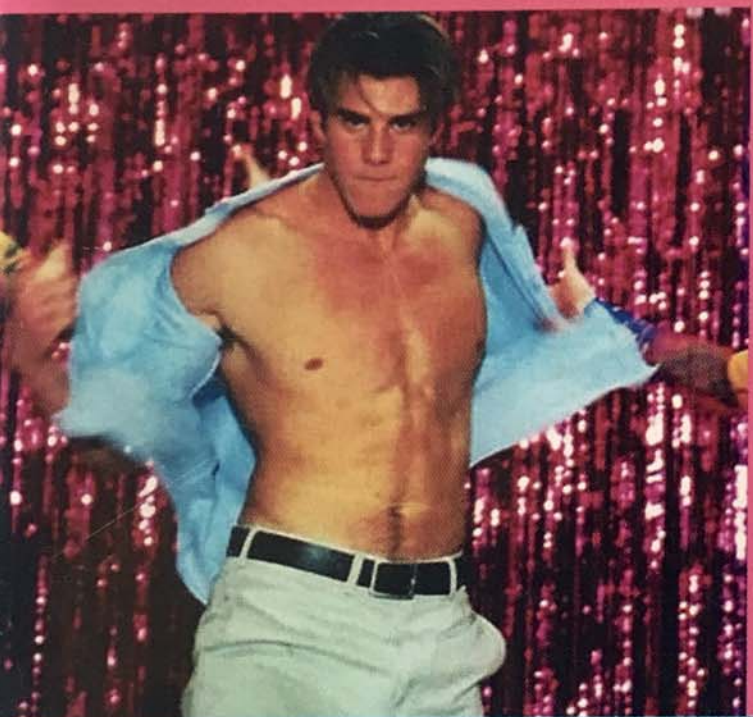


10th dublin lesbian & gay film festival 2002



1st - 5th August 2002 - Irish Film Centre

www.gcn.ie/dlgff



Screen 1	11.30am The Celluloid Closet	11.30am Swoon		
Screen 2	12.30pm Forum	12.30pm Irish Shorts		
Screen 1	The Celluloid Closet	Thw Einstein of Sex	Bombay Eunuch & Just A Woman	Treading Water
Screen 2	Men's Shorts	IFC programme The Girl From Paris	IFC programme The Girl From Paris	The George
Screen 1	Tour Abroad	Circuit	Simon & I & Rainmakers	All About My Father
Screen 2	IFC programme The Girl From Paris	Woman's Shorts	Chop Suey	Tour Abroad
Screen 1	6.00pm Ignorant Fairies 7.30pm Launch Party	KM.0	Venus Boys	Ibiza Dreams
Screen 2		Woman's Shorts	Undetectable & That's Me	Queer Shorts
Screen 1	By Hook or By Crook	Replay	AKA	Nine Dead Gay Guys
Screen 2		Webcam Boys	Lifetime Guarantee	IFC programme The Girl From Paris
Screen 1		Chop Suey	Meeting House Square Cabaret	
Screen 2				

Membership of the Irish Film Centre is necessary to attend any of the films in the 10th Dublin Lesbian & Gay Film Festival. Membership is available to all over 18 years. Membership must be taken out 20 minutes before attending a screening. Membership entitles you to buy 1 + 3 guests per performance. Membership does not guarantee entry to films - to avoid disappointment all performances should be booked well in advance. Membership entitles you, on production of a valid Membership Card, to discounts in the IFC Bookshop. All guests must also be over 18 for unclassified films. Annual Fee - Euro 14 (Euro 10 concession)

Weekly Fee - Euro 1.30 (no concession)
 Admission Fees: 11.30am to 2.30pm: Euro 6.50 (Euro 5.00 concession)
 After 4pm: Euro 7.00 (Euro 5.80 concession)
 Festival Launch & Opening Film Euro 15 / Euro 10
 Closing Film Euro 10 / Euro 8
 The IFC box office is open from 1.30pm to 7.30pm for advance bookings and credit card bookings by telephone.
 IFC Box Office: 6 Eustace St., Dublin 2, t: (01) 679 3477



Welcome

So, the 10th Dublin Lesbian and Gay Film Festival – welcome to you all!

It's been quite a decade of change for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans-Queer people, and not just in Ireland. There's been an enormous amount of social, cultural, political and legislative change, all of which has impacted positively on the freedoms we have to live our lives. One of the main aims of the festival is to contribute to that change, which we've done over the last 10 years by selecting and showing queer images that continue to expand the boundaries that define our lives.

We hope the festival will continue to do that in the future - to root out films which are both enjoyable and stimulating, and which present some of the multiplexities of queerness.

No community festival can happen without the commitment and dedication of a host of volunteers. To all those who've been involved over the years, including Kevin Sexton and Yvonne O'Reilly who were at the helm for the first few years – thank you. Your efforts in getting us to the 10th festival are very much appreciated.

This year's festival continues the audience awards introduced last year. You will be handed a ballot paper after each screening – please take the time to register your vote. This also allows us to get a clearer idea of what kinds of films you would like programmed in future festivals. This year too we have rounded up the non-concession ticket prices – this is to ensure that the festival will cover its costs.

For this 10th festival, as for the others, a dedicated group have worked diligently for the last few months. We'd like to say a big thank you to the programmers, co-ordinators and committee members, and indeed to the IFC. Without all of their efforts there would be no festival. Our Sponsors and Friends are key to the success of the festival – a big thank you to them for their ongoing support and commitment over the years.

Mostly though, we'd like to thank all of you – the audiences – who keep coming to the films every year, and make it all worthwhile. We hope that the next decade of the DLGFF will be as entertaining, challenging and rewarding as the last. On behalf of all of those involved in this year's festival, we hope you enjoy it.



Introduction

Festival Programmers

*Deborah Ballard &
Paul Connell*

Welcome to the 10th Dublin Lesbian & Gay Film Festival. We have tried to programme strong films which will appeal to every part of our heterogeneous audience, which are unlikely to be seen in Ireland outside the tiny arthouse circuit (if at all), and which speak in particular to an audience which still rarely sees itself reflected on screen.

This year, there's been a shift in films by and about lesbians, gay men and others on the queer spectrum. The gay romantic comedy is dead in the water, so there are fewer feelgood features in this festival, more films that are challenging in subject and technically innovative, like *AKA*, *By Hook Or By Crook* or Bruce Weber's marvellous *Chop Suey*. 'Gay issues' are *not* the issue for many feature directors, who are looking at other questions of identity, the legacy of parenting, the meaning of family and the complexities of feeling, albeit through queer characters, as in *Ignorant Fairies*, *Tour Abroad* or *Ibiza Dream*. It is largely documentary-makers who are dealing with the big issues, especially those from the world beyond the west, like the makers of our three African films, *Simon & I*, *That's Me* and *Rainmakers II*. There's a continuing rise in films dealing with transgender and intersex issues, including stunning documentaries like *Venus Boyz* and *All About My Father*.

As the boundaries blur, we are asking ourselves, What is queer cinema? and this is the subject of our *Festival Forum* (p.11). To celebrate our tenth anniversary, our retrospective programme (p.11) is *3 on 10*, three of the best films of the last ten years, curated by 1999-2000 programmer Brian Finnegan. Two of these are in new morning slots, with brunch available from 10.30 am in the IFC bar. We also have two late screenings *Chop Suey* on Friday 2, and, in a joint presentation with Temple Bar Properties' Diversions programme, *Cabaret* at 10.30pm on Saturday in Meeting House Square.

We would like to thank particularly Gráinne Humphreys, Brian Finnegan, Kathy Löewen, Brian Sheehan and Selina Robertson of the LLGFF for their generous input into the programme.

Deborah Ballard & Paul Connell



What IS Queer cinema?

Festival Forum

Saturday 3 August, 12.30pm

Screen 2

Admission: Free

3 FROM 10

Retrospective Programme

Curated by Brian Finnegan

www.gcn.ie/dlgff

FESTIVAL FORUM, RETROSPECTIVE PROGRAMME

Forum - What is Queer Cinema

Is there (still) such a thing as a gay or lesbian film? And how does a 'queer' film differ? Why do we want or need designated lesbian & gay film festivals, and who should our audience(s) be? Western gay film-makers have largely moved away from issue-based films, but this is not necessarily the case for those from other parts of the world.

What are the conflicts between audience and film-maker, film-maker and film-funder? How is digital technology affecting the way films are made, in terms of politics, aesthetic, accessibility, style and content? We've asked chairwoman Katherine O'Donnell and panellists film journalist Nick Costello, queer theorist Michael Cronin and Duncan Roy, director of AKA to consider questions like these in light of the changes in queer film-making over the last ten years.

3 from 10

Three of the best films from ten years of the DLGFF? It's a tough call. Since its birth in 1993, when Kevin Sexton and Yvonne O'Reilly decided to expand the Dublin Lesbian & Gay Film Club into an annual bank holiday weekend of homo-action, the festival has hosted the best queer cinema from all over the globe. Without it, most of the movies in the annual line-up would never be seen in this country, such is the fate of most low-budget indie films in smaller territories.

In choosing *3 from 10*, I had a self-imposed remit: pick one for the guys, one for the gals, and one for everyone. My first choice was *Female Perversions*, a beautiful, intelligent, sexy movie which I saw in the 5th festival but which subsequently didn't get even a video release in Ireland. My second choice was *Swoon*, a movie from the festival's earliest days, and another landmark in the development of queer cinema. It's anathema to the kind of romantic junk-food ushered in by the likes of *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* in the mid-nineties, and I'm delighted to provide a rare chance to see it again. Last but not least, I plumped for *The Celluloid Closet*, simply because it's one of the best queer movies about queers in the movies ever made. If you haven't seen it already on the big screen this is probably one of the last chances you'll ever get, and you're in for one hell of a treat. See you there!

Brian Finnegan



Opening Film

By Hook Or By Crook



Closing Film

L.I.E.



Outdoor screening

Cabaret

www.gcn.ie/dlgff

Launch Party for 10th Dublin Lesbian & Gay Film Festival in the IFC Foyer at 7.30pm, followed at 8.30 by **Launch and Opening Film** in Cinema 1

By Hook Or By Crook is a buddy movie of a different kind - a movie about butches by butches which gives voice to a powerful new creative sensibility. After the death of her father, butch loner Shy (Silas Howard, from queercore band Tribe 8) leaves Kansas for a life of crime in the big city. She joins forces with the damaged but compelling Valentine (Harry Dodge), and they find themselves up against the forces of intolerance and authority, learning the true meaning of grace under pressure in this visually stunning, anti-authoritarian tale of friendship, trust and redemption. With a mesmerising performance by Harry Dodge, (Dinah in John Waters' *Cecil B. Demented*), *By Hook Or By Crook* is like a female version of *Midnight Cowboy* - hilarious, poignant and brave. *Silas Howard & Harry Dodge, USA, 2001, 90 mins, DV CAM PAL*

CLOSING FILM - *L.I.E.* Monday 5 August, 8.30 Cinema 1
The controversial Opening Film at this year's LLGFF, *L.I.E.* depicts the complex relationship between a troubled adolescent boy and a predatory older man. 15 year old Howie has lost his mother, and his father is too busy with his new girlfriend and mounting business worries to pay attention to his son's sadness and alienation. When Howie and his friend break into a house, they come under the scrutiny of the owner, Big John. John tracks down Howie, and a uncomfortable but tender relationship develops between them. Setting the neediness and barely understood desires of vulnerable young boys against those of the older man (a powerful performance from Brian Cox), *L.I.E.* is a startling study of loneliness and the complexity of male sexuality.

Michael Cuesta, USA, 2001, 94 mins, 35mm

OUTDOOR SCREENING - CABARET

Saturday 3 August, 10.30pm Meeting House Square
Bob Fosse's assured musical adaptation of Christopher Isherwood's stories of 1930s Berlin still mesmerises, with great songs, an even-handed take on (homo)sexuality and crackling performances from Liza Minnelli as chanteuse Sally Bowles, Michael York as Isherwood's alter ego and Oscar-winning Joel Gray as MC of the decadent Kit Kat Klub. We are delighted to present this screening in association with Temple Bar Properties, as a joint 10th anniversary venture.
Bob Fosse, USA, 1972, 128 mins, 35mm

Screen 1

Thursday 1st August 6.00pm



Ignorant Fairies

(LE FATE IGNORANTE)

Director: Ferzan Ozpetek

Italy, 2001

35mm, 105 mins
Italian with English s/t

16th Lesbian
Lobby & Day
Film Festival
of Tor

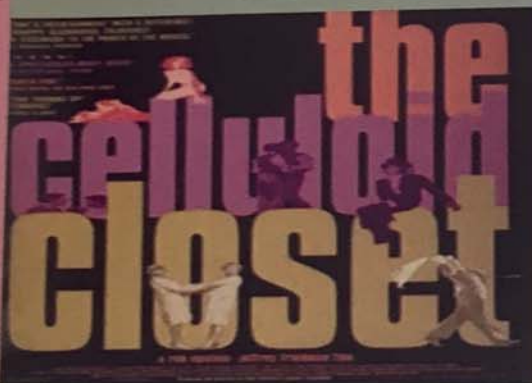
From the acclaimed director of *Harem* and *Turkish Bath* comes *Ignorant Fairies*, a huge hit in Italy thanks to its superb lead performances and masterful direction.

Antonia, an upper middle-class woman living in the suburbs of Rome, has been living in the shadow of her husband Massimo for 15 years. When he dies in a motor accident, she is left inconsolable, until she discovers that he has had a long-term relationship with someone else – Michele, a gay man. At first appalled, she is gradually drawn into Michele's life and meets his friends – the kind of people she has never before met in her sheltered life. As Massimo's grieving partners struggle to come to terms with their loss they are drawn together in surprising ways...

Ozpetek examines questions of love, family, friendship and uses them to show how they can give us new meanings and new models of social and emotional behaviour.

Screen 1

Friday 2nd August 2.30pm



The Celluloid Closet

Directors: Rob Epstein & Jeffrey Friedman

USA, 1996

35mm, 102min

www.gcn.ie/dlgff

3 from 10 Retrospective Programme

Released in the year of the fourth Dublin Lesbian & Gay Film Festival, *The Celluloid Closet* was based on Vitto Russo's landmark 1982 book charting a history of the movies through a queer lens. From comic sissies to lesbian vampires, from selfish queens to sadistic predators, Hollywood has both reflected and defined how the world thinks about homosexuality and about what it means to be a man or woman. With clips from over 100 Hollywood movies, and interviews with many of the filmmakers and stars who created them (including Tom Hanks, Shirley McLaine, Susan Sarandon, Whoopi Goldberg and Gore Vidal), *The Celluloid Closet* is an epic story. By turns surprising, hilarious and disturbing, it's a film that presses more emotional buttons than a melodrama and ends up, despite its myriad tales of sexual misrepresentation, joyfully affirming the place of gay men and lesbians on the screen. *BF*

Repeat screening: Saturday 3rd August 11.30am - Screen 1



Men's Shorts

For full details of films
see our website

16th London
Lesbian & Gay
Film Festival
Of Tour

A selection of shorts which starts with a repeat outing for Barry Dignam's *Chicken*, joint winner of last year's Audience Award. In Tamara Tracz's *Beachcombers*, Josh and Amber while away a summer's day, but find that the beach can throw up real surprises. In Ian Iqbal Rashid's *Stag*, a best man and his groom wake up after the stag night to grapple with new possibilities, while the nerdy hero of Glenn Gaylord's *Boychick* channels his 'Inner Britney' to get the boy of his dreams. Andrew Lancaster's *In Search of Mike* is a weird and wonderful tribute to the mother from Hell. The memory of a one night stand persists long after the event for the protagonists of Hoang Duong's sharply observed *Tom Clay Jesus*. Peitor Angell's *The Sleeping Man* charts falling in love to disillusionment in five sleepy scenes, while Todd Dowling uses Billy Doll-mation to send up the romantic gay comedy in *Jeffrey's Hollywood Screen Trick*.

Repeat Screening: Sunday 4 August, 6.30 - Screen 2

Screen 1

Friday 2nd August 4.30pm



Tour Abroad

(YURTDISI TURU)

Director: Ayse Polat

Turkey / Germany, 1999

35mm, 91mins, s/t

Zeki is a gay, 40-something singer, who works the Turkish clubs in Europe. When he hears that his old friend Mahmut has died, he goes to Germany for the funeral, although he has not seen him for years. He is asked by the neighbours to take charge of Mahmut's 11 year-old daughter Senay and bring her to her mother, Cicek, who works as a belly-dancer. Trouble is, no one knows where, so the unwilling Zeki and Senay embark on an odyssey through Germany, France and Turkey in search of her.

This is a far from sentimental film; Zeki becomes frustrated, the vulnerable Senay is forced into a world beyond her years, and there's no fairy-tale ending, either. But the growing intimacy between these unlikely protagonists makes this a heartening and touching story, and one which challenges conventional ideas of what 'family' is.

Repeat screening: Monday 5th August 4.30pm - Screen 2

www.gcn.ie/dlgff

Screen 1

Friday 2nd August 6.30pm



KM.0

Directors: Yolanda Garcia
Serrano and
Juan Luis Iborra

Spain, 2000

105 mins

KM.0 (Kilometre Zero) is Spain's imaginary centrepiece, the point from which distances in Spain are measured. Located in downtown Madrid, it's a convenient meeting place for all walks of life. Seven couples arrange to meet at the same time in the square, each believing that on such a hot and sultry August evening there shouldn't be many people around - how wrong can they be!

Amor wants to persuade her boyfriend to get married. Pedro arranges to meet actress Silvia, who wants to audition for a famous director. Butch flamenco dancer Bruno goes there to meet his internet date, but ends up with Benjamin, whose gigolo room-mate Miguel is hooking up with middle-aged Marga... The relationship between these people may be uncomfortably closer than they think, and as the plot twists and turns, unexpected meetings and second chances are the order of the day in this frenetic tale of mistaken identities. A brilliantly executed comedy of errors which won the Audience Award at the Miami and Turin Lesbian & Gay Film Festivals.

Screen 2

Friday 2nd August 6.30pm



Women's Shorts

For full details of films
see our website.

16th London
Lesbian & Gay
Film Festival
On Tour

www.gcn.ie/dlgff

A selection of short films - for full details see our website.

Jamie 'But I'm a Cheerleader' Babbit deservedly won the 2002 Film Four Prize for *Stuck*, her elegant and humorous take on dysfunctional longterm relationships. From its opening scene of a woman writing in a New York café, Olivier Lécot's *No, Not Now* weaves a hip and provocative account of the romantic narratives we construct for ourselves - and watch out for the cutest protagonist in years. Be careful what you pray for: Welsh director Phil John serves up sinister Catholic fantasies in her Poe-esque *Sister Lulu*. Erotic and class tensions build to a sticky moment in Cath le Couteur's stylish *Starched*. The gentlemanly Uncle 'Bar' keeps the barbershop, focus of village gossip, but keeps his own secret from everyone but his wife in *Uncle 'Bar' at Barbershop*, a restrained and sensitive film from Korean director Jong-Kwan Kwon.

Repeat screening: Saturday 3rd August 4.30pm - Screen 2

Screen 1

Friday 2nd August 8.30pm



Replay/La Répétition

Director: Catherine Corsini
France/Canada, 2001
35mm, 95 mins

16th London
Lesbian & Gay
Film Festival
City Tour

Best friends Louise (Pascale Bussières – *When Night is Falling*) and Nathalie (the luminous Emmanuelle Béart) fall apart as Louise's possessiveness become too much for the pliant Nathalie. Ten years later, Nathalie is a successful avant-garde actress, and Louise, now married, goes to see her in performance. As their relationship resumes, the respective neediness and obsessiveness which corrupted their friendship before recur in a darker, more damaging way in the reprise. This unsettling story of desire and obsession is beautifully realised by director Corsini, with stunning performances from the lead actresses, particularly the ravishing Béart.

Screen 2

Friday 2nd August 8.30pm



Webcam Boys

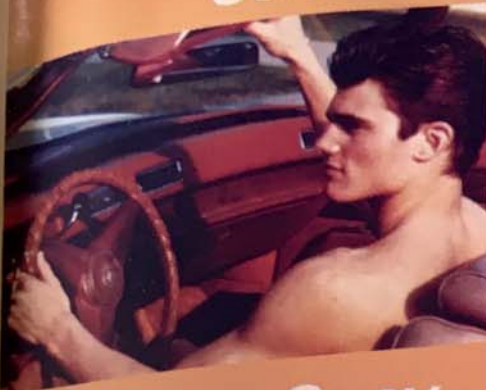
Director: RADD
USA, 2001
57 mins

www.gcn.ie/dlgff

Candid Camera never looked so good! Providing a whole new technology of pornography, the internet is a voyeur's delight, and films about it (Jed Weintrob's *On-Line*, *Webcam Boys*) implicate the audience in that voyeurism. Similar to *101 Rent Boys*, *Webcam Boys* is a behind-the-scenes look at some of the men who live – and do it – 'on cam' for the pleasure of others. Welcome to the world of Kip, Dino and brothers Cody and Cory. Between scenes of on cam action, here with an incestuous twist, the boys give candid interviews about sex, their traumas and their lives under the scrutiny of 24 hour cameras. *Big Brother* eat your heart out – webcam boys do it better. Surprising, refreshing and totally fascinating, *Webcam Boys* seduces the viewer into a riveting world where the private ain't that private.

Screen 1

Friday 2nd August 10.30pm



Chop Suey

Director: Bruce Weber

USA, 2000

35mm, 98min

16th London
LGBTQ+ Film Festival
Q&A Tour

Chop Suey is based on photographer Bruce Weber's four year photographic love affair with Peter Johnson, whom he discovered at a mid-western wrestling camp at the age of 16, and who is now one of the highest paid male models in the States. But it is far more than a homage to male beauty: Weber's profound respect for his subject expands into a mutual fascination for some extraordinary people, notably the late lesbian jazz singer, Frances Faye, who was never allowed to play Las Vegas, but was worshipped by singers like Garland and Sinatra, legendary fashion doyenne Diana Vreeland and Hollywood icon Robert Mitchum, revealed as you've never before imagined them. Weber combines film sequences, photos, archive footage, Super-8 and clips from Hollywood films to build a multi-layered vision of the particular and special, a challenging and gorgeous film which richly rewards the open-spirited viewer. 'A film of extraordinary beauty and singular vision!' - *Hollywood Reporter*.

Screen 1

Saturday 3rd August 2.30pm



The Einstein Of Sex

(Der Einstein Des Sex):
Life and Work of Doctor
Magnus Hirschfeld

Director: Rosa von Praunheim
Germany, 1999
98 min

www.gcn.ie/dlgff

From veteran gay film-maker Rosa Von Praunheim (*Revolt of the Perverts, Silence=Death*) comes this beautiful bio-pic of Berlin sexologist Dr Magnus Hirschfeld, who in 1897 founded the first homosexual rights group in the world. His Institute of Sexual Science in Berlin became a world-famous centre for the study of human sexuality until it was destroyed by the Nazis, and he made homosexuality a political cause célèbre by fighting existing 19th century German anti-sodomy laws. Hirschfeld is seen in relation to the major figures in his life, from the unfulfilled love affair with Baron von Teschenberg to the happy years with young Karl Giese; from his struggle with his major gay opponent, right-wing writer Adolf Brand, to his relationship with his maid, the transvestite Dorchen, a character of great wit and courage. A passionately political and challenging film-maker, von Praunheim has made a curiously tender portrait of this engaging and courageous man.

Screen 1

Saturday 3rd August 4.30pm



Circuit

Director: Dirk Shafer

USA 2001

35mm, 120mins

(To be confirmed)

Pumped, preened, powdered – mind would your septum fall out – and ready to do some hard partying? Well, Dirk Shafer's *Circuit* will take you into the heady world of the circuit party scene of hard drugs and even harder bodies. After being outed at work, gay cop John accepts an invitation from his cousin Tad, who's making a documentary about the party circuit, and packs himself off to West Hollywood. John's confident assertion that he doesn't need drugs to have a good time disappears as quickly as the white lines vanishing up his nostrils and very soon he's just one of the guys. Physically perfected, desired and safe in the crowd, John falls for the temperamental Hector, a hot Latin hustler with a fascination for plastic surgery. Meanwhile, Tad's getting it all on film, and all the threads of this heady mix culminate in spiralling tragedy at Florida's notorious White Party.

'Man of the Year' Dirk Shafer's *Circuit* is a challenging but never judgemental dramatic exposé of the drugs and party lifestyle.

Screen 1

Saturday 3rd August 6.30pm



Venus Boyz

Director: Gabriel Baur

Switzerland, 2001

35mm, 104 mins

16th London
Lesbian & Gay
Film Festival
Of Torr

www.gcn.ie/dlgff

This stunning English-language documentary charts the director's journey "in search of the women who live in between, and also of the man they become, be it for a night or a lifetime." Structuring the film round drag king nights at New York's legendary Club Casanova and London women's use of hormones to create masculine and intersex identities, she examines both female masculinities and transformation "as performance, subversion or existential necessity". With Diane Torr, Del LaGrace Volcano, Mo Fisher, Storme Webber, Berlin performer Bridge Markland and others, *Venus Boyz* is required viewing for queers male, female and all points in between.

Winner of the Critics' Week Award at the Locarno Film Festival 2001.

Screen 2

Saturday 3rd August 6.30pm



Undetectable

Jay Corcoran
USA 2001, 56 mins, Beta SP

Screens with

That's Me

Sasha Wales-Smith, Zimbabwe
2001, 7 mins 35mm



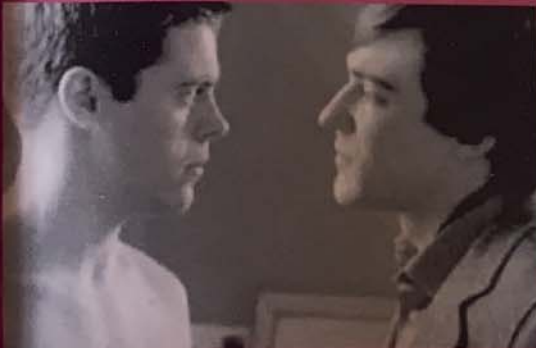
Undetectable takes us into the lives of six HIV-positive Bostonians who are being treated with multi-drug therapy, the so-called drug 'cocktails'. They are gay and straight, male and female, white people and people of colour, drug-users, middle-class and impoverished. For some, multi-drug therapies have reduced the HIV virus to undetectable levels, but for others the side effects have been devastating. Corcoran was granted extraordinary access to their lives and treatments, and through them we witness how multi-drug therapies bring not just hope, but the need to cope with the side-effects of the treatment and the challenge of rebuilding their lives.

Screens with *That's Me*

This portrait of a young HIV+ and transvestite gay man living in Zimbabwe forms an irrefutable answer to the primitive homophobia of its president, Robert Mugabe. In place of hate and derision it foregrounds the values of love, acceptance and hope – and partying.

Screen 1

Saturday 3rd August 8.30pm



AKA

Director: Duncan Roy

UK 2002

35mm, 120 mins

www.gcn.ie/dlgff

Set in Thatcher's London, *AKA* is the story of a shy, working-class boy played by Matthew Leitch (*Band of Brothers*). Kicked out of his home by his abusive father, Dean embarks on a Ripley-esque quest to re-invent his life by introducing himself to Lady Gryffoyn (Diana Quick), whom he mistakenly believes to be a friend of his mother's. Inveigling himself into her world of artists and aristocrats, he moves to Paris, where rent boys Hoover up the coke and champagne at society parties, and spirals deep into debt and deception. Dean's growing realisation that he cannot escape his past is set against a savage portrait of the British class system of the eighties.

Split over three screens throughout, this is riveting, inventive filmmaking, originally made in Digibeta, and here seen on a new 35mm print.

We are delighted to welcome director Duncan Roy to present his film, and to be a panellist at this year's Festival Forum (12.30pm, Saturday 3 August).

Screen 2

Saturday 3rd August 8.30pm



Life Time Guarantee:

Phranc's Adventures in Plastic

Director: Lisa Udelson,

USA 2001,
Beta SP PAL 58mins

Phranc is a lesbian folk-singer (remember Do the Bull-dagger Swagger, anyone?) who has found a new career as a Tupperware lady – indeed, she has won awards from the company which promises 'to keep yesterday fresh for today' for the amount of plastic she's moved. She has to be the butchiest Tupperware lady in the business, and she's had to deal with homophobia along the way, but Phranc's a success at pushing the product, not just because of her charm and wit, but because she believes in it.

Lisa Udelson's hilarious and accomplished documentary won the Audience Award at last year's Outfest in Los Angeles.

Screen 1

Sunday 4th August 11.30am



Swoon

Director: Tom Kalin

US 1992

35mm , 115 min

3 From 10 Retrospective Programme

Tom Kalin's brilliant *Swoon* not only heralded the beginning of the Dublin Lesbian & Gay Film Festival, it also ushered in a complete movement in gay filmmaking. Defined as New Queer Cinema, Kalin's vision was part of a trend that eschewed the 'woe is me' line of gay storytelling by creating defiant works that reflected on the real-life situations of queers in a world where the characters were young, out and outspoken. Their stories went beyond examining the characters' sexual orientation and for the first time dealt instead with the many issues that affected them.

Based on the scandalous 1924 murder trial of gay lovers Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb for the murder of a young boy (and in turn on Alfred Hitchcock's *Rope* and Richard Fleischer's *Compulsion*), *Swoon*'s real interest lies less in the terrible act of the unlikely criminals and more with the lovers' intense and self-destructive relationship. Fascinating, frustrating and totally fucked-up, *Swoon* is gay cinema at its most visceral. *BF*

Screen 2



Irish Shorts

Jim Lowther
All Women are Mermaids
12min

Bruno Breathnach - Zen Kiss
29 min. Derriere, 3mins
Brodie Girls, 10 min

Simon and Cloud - A Self Portrait
10 mins

Cerda Carroll - Gay West 12min

Philpot - Bándearg Faoi Ghlas
26min st

Sunday 4th August 12.30pm

We are delighted to present six new films by Irish film-makers. *Gay West*, by Cerda Carroll, documents the growth of Gay Pride Galway-style. Ger (*Changes*) Philpot's critically acclaimed *Firdherg Faoi Ghlas*, which screened earlier this year on TG4, looks at coming out as *gaeilge*. And hot from the editing room come three films by Bruno Breathnach and one from Jim Lowther, joint winner of last year's Audience Award for Best Short Film.

Screen 1

Sunday 4th August 2.30pm



Bombay Eunuch

A Shiva, S MacDonald and
M Gucovsky, USA, 71, mins,
Beta SP PAL

Screens with:

Just a Woman

M Farahani, Iran/France, 30
mins, Beta SP PAL, s/t

Bombay Eunuch is a documentary portrait of one eunuch family's struggle to survive in today's changing India. Throughout much of Indian history, the eunuchs, or hijras, have been considered almost divine. Once respected members of the community, they have today become objects of mockery; many have resorted to begging and prostitution to make a living. Ostracised by their communities, they are forced to live outside the traditional caste system and often form surrogate families of their own. Focusing on the dynamic matriarch, Meena, Bombay Eunuch traces the experiences of one such family as it confronts the challenges of poverty, prostitution and AIDS.

Screens with Just a Woman

Since her gender reassignment operation Moravid has lived in isolation in her tiny Tehran flat. She talks about her life as we see her put on the chador to go out for the first time as a woman. Winner of the Special Jury Prize at the Berlinale Teddy Awards, this touching and sensitive film challenges western clichés about Iranian and Muslim culture.

Screen 1



Simon & I

Beverley Palesa-Ditsie and
Nicky Newman, South Africa,
2001, 52mins, 35mm

screens with

Rainmakers II:

Tina Machida in Zimbabwe
Robbie Hart, USA/ Zimbabwe,
2001, 26mins, Beta SP PAL

Sunday 4th August 4.30pm

Simon & I recounts the lives of two giants of the South African gay and lesbian liberation movement, Simon Nkuli, who died of AIDS-related illness in 2000, and the film-maker herself, Bev Palesa-Ditsie. She charts their relationship through good times and bad, and the central issues of gay activism and HIV/AIDS are developed in a mixed format of interviews, archive footage and stills. Ditsie's fascinating documentary bears witness to the sacrifices required of human rights activists in South Africa and the consequent strain upon personal relationships. This powerful film shows us two powerful personalities, but only one struggle in a country at a time of great change.

Screens with *Rainmakers II*:

Tina Machida in Zimbabwe Lesbian activist Tina Machida risks her life for her beliefs in Zimbabwe, whose president, Robert Mugabe, unrepentantly calls gay men and lesbians 'worse than dogs and pigs'.

Screen 1



Female Perversions

Director: Susan Streitfeld

USA, 1996

35mm, 119 mins

Sunday 4th August 6.30pm

3 FROM 10 (Retrospective Programme)

The standout film at the 5th Dublin Lesbian & Gay Film Festival, *Female Perversions* features Tilda Swinton, in a performance both adventurous and beautifully nuanced, as Eve Stephens, a high-powered LA lawyer headed for a judgeship. She knows how to manipulate the male-dominated corporate world while coolly keeping herself together as a woman. But underneath, Eve is struggling to make sense of sexuality, her position of power, her psyche, her emotions and her relationships. Director Susan Streitfeld keeps the sexual tension high throughout this steamy, intense film, packed with dreamy symbolism exploring Eve's internal struggle between heterosexuality and lesbianism as she hides what she must to achieve her career ambitions, yet tries to satisfy her need for intimacy. A rare chance to see one of the most intelligent movies about female sexuality ever made. *BF*

Screen 1

Sunday 4th August 8.30pm



Nine Dead Gay Guys

Director: Lab Ky Mo

England 2001

35mm 70min



The scandal at this years Cannes film festival *Nine Dead Gay Guys* is a wild, overtly outrageous comedy set in London's gay seedy underworld. Cartoonish, cheeky with an array of stereotypical characters not usually associated with a seedy underground scene all getting knocked off, *Nine Dead Gay Guys* is a fast paced shocker. So fasten those seat belts this is a bumpy ride.

Sunday 4th August 8.30pm



Group

Director: Marilyn Freeman

USA, 2001

35mm, 106 mins

A startlingly original movie, based on the director's own therapy experience, *Group* follows eight wildly different women – rock performer, abandoned daughter, born-again Christian, street queer and bigoted straight – through 21 weeks of group therapy. By abandoning the script for improv techniques Freeman gets star performances from her indie cast – look out for Sleater Kinney's Carrie Brownstein and Ladyfest founder Nomy Lamm – and by using six cameras and splitting the frame six ways à la *Timecode* she reveals every reaction to each disclosure. The sometimes tense, sometimes moving, sometimes funny sessions are framed by observations of the participants on their way to them and by suitably shaky hand-held title sequences. Indie film-making at its best, this unlikely project makes for totally compulsive viewing.

16th London
Lesbian & Gay
Film Festival
City Tour

Screen 1

Monday 5th August 2.30pm



Treading Water

Director: Lauren Himmel

USA, 2001

35mm, 95 mins

Casey is a longshorewoman in the small New England coastal town where her Irish-American family lives. Living on her boat with Alex, her beautiful drug counsellor girlfriend, she seems to have everything she wants – except her uptight mother's approval. As Christmas approaches, the family nexus becomes ever more involved, drawing in Alex even as she is excluded from the holiday celebrations. As the pressure builds, Casey and Alex are tripped into damaging mistakes, putting their relationships at risk, but affecting the whole family as well.

With great chemistry between Angela Redman and Nina Landey as Casey and Alex, Lauren Himmel's film eschews dramatic plot twists for an subtle and authentic concern with how conservative Catholicism and family pressures, affect our relationships.

Screen 2

Monday 5th August 2.30pm



The George

Director: Clark Harding

Ireland, 2002

55 mins

Documentary film-maker Clark Harding's *The George* offers a fascinating glimpse of Dublin's ever growing scene through the eyes of some of its most vibrant characters. Under Dublin's largest gay venue we hear it from seasoned campaigners to timid icebreakers to in-ye-face performers on life on the scene today.

Screen 1

Monday 5th August 4.30pm



All About My Father

Director: Even Benestad

Norway/Denmark, 2001

35mm, s/t 75 mins

Esben Benestad, a Norwegian doctor and politician, is a transvestite who lives increasingly as a woman, and is an outspoken activist for increased understanding of what he terms 'bi-gender' people. Some years ago, he was approached by a director who wanted to make a film about him, but his son Even, then 18, asked him to wait until he'd finished his film studies so that he might make the film instead.

Esben wanted the film to promote his campaign for increased awareness and understanding, while Even wanted to trawl the painful feelings his father's choice has aroused in his family. Juxtaposing interviews with his parents, sister and Eben's second wife Elsa with footage of his father shopping for women's clothes and dressing and going out as a woman, Even Benestad has achieved a film of great honesty and startling maturity, which both unfolds and resolves this conflict.

This outstanding documentary, winner of the 2002 Teddy prize for Best Documentary at the Berlinale, is a festival must-see.

Screen 1

Monday 5th August 6.30pm



Ibiza Dream

(EL SUENO DE IBIZA)

Director: Igor Fioravanti

Spain, 2001

35mm, s/t 98 mins

We first see Nacho, Carlos and Chica as children, growing up in an Ibiza which changes out of recognition in the course of their young lives. When Nacho comes home after living in India, he returns to the drugs and partying, but in their differing ways he and Chica become increasingly uneasy about their lives, while Carlos, passionate and fearless, embraces both the pleasures of life and their consequences.

Igor Fioravanti, himself Ibiza-born, gives a moving and authentic account of growing up, re-evaluating home and friendship, and reassessing what is of value while trying to remain faithful to the dream of freedom and love. It is his first feature, with a great soundtrack by legendary Spanish DJ José Padilla (Café del Mar).

www.gcn.ie/dlgff



Credits

*Thank you for your
help and support*

The Dublin Lesbian & Gay Film Festival would like to thank the following for their help and support in the organisation of this year's Festival.

All our Festival Sponsors for their generous support. We encourage you to support them in return.

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Festival Committee:

Matthew Bankert (Sponsorship), Eoin Collins (Director), Oisín Crotty, Karl Hayden (Finance Director), Andrew Macken, Brian Sheehan (Director) & John Walsh (Press Officer).

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Programmers:

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