

CAMBOFEST
FILM & VIDEO FESTIVAL OF
CAMBODIA

DAY 1

SATURDAY, JUNE 16 2007
3-11 PM

VENUE A: METAHOUSE ST 264, HOUSE 6
(NEXT TO PHNOM PENH POST BLDG, NEAR ROYAL PALACE)

VENUE B: SALA ARTSPACE 339 E2 SISOWATH (ON THE
RIVERSIDE, ENTER THROUGH MEKONG WEB)

VENUE X: ????? (TBA)

CAMBOFEST: DAY 1 Saturday June 16 [Program runs 3PM-11PM]

VENUE A: Features, Shorts, Experimental – METAHOUSE

(updated June 4, 2007)

What is Cambofest?

Cambofest is a global film and video festival which features “New Movies From Around the World” (including movies from Cambodia!) It is also the first independent or “indie”* film festival in Cambodia. We are currently 100% private sector, and as such we are not managed or supported by an NGO, government or donor money. Consequently, we have no donor agenda or donor obligations; therefore we strive to show movies – documentaries, features, and shorts—which we believe are compelling, entertaining, and worth watching in their own right.

How are we different?

Firstly: CamboFest is geared towards showing movies which are produced independently of major studio financing (hence the term “independent” or “indie”, commonly heard on the film festival circuit.) With some exceptions, we also tend not to show movies which are largely financed or produced by NGOs or non-profit organizations. That means we generally show new movies made by independent filmmakers from all over the globe. Few of those movies have a budget which exceeds \$1,000,000— and most are made for much less than that!

One notable independent festival, for example, is the Sundance Film Festival in Park City Utah.

Secondly: as we strive to model ourselves after other legitimate film festivals, **CamboFest shows movies only with the permission of the copyright holders.** Obviously, this is a sticky issue in Cambodia where intellectual property rights are often disregarded. But it’s our belief that public performance of motion pictures [versus home viewing], without securing performance rights from the copyright holder, is a bogus approach: it’s unethical and does not support the arts*. It’s also illegal, by the way, to show movies in a public performance setting—even if no admission fee is charged at the venue!

*[*Can you imagine, for example, operating an art gallery which features paintings by artists whose work is being shown without the artists permission?]*

Aside from the legal issues, **no respected film festival or screening venue in the world shows work without securing public performance rights from the rights holder**—again, even if no admission fee is charged. While it’s a lot of work to deal with rights issues, versus just grabbing a DVD from the shelf or video store and popping it in for a weekly public “film screening”, it’s our belief that a bona fide approach to dealing with public performance rights is the only way to support moviemakers and the industry as a whole, while building a reputable, legitimate movie event.

It’s also a necessary approach for the development of a viable media sector in Cambodia; the demands of the global economy [not to mention the WTO] are strongly shaping a country’s ability to be taken seriously as a trade partner in intellectual property areas.

While CamboFest is 100% private sector and has no NGO affiliation (and our real interest is just showing great movies!) we also hope that our festival contributes in a very positive way to the development of Cambodia, by introducing new ideas and filmmaking techniques from experienced and emerging filmmakers the world over. We also intend to demonstrate that a viable, legitimate festival can exist even while observing the realities of public performance permissions.

Anyway, enough talk; on to the movies!

All the Best,

Jason Rosette
Director, **CamboFest**

Vuth Tep
Programming Assistant, **CamboFest**

CAMBOFEST: Film and Video Festival of Cambodia ~ www.cambofest.com

“New Independent Movies from Around the World!” ~ Produced by **Camerado** → www.camerado.com

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METAHOUSE - ** UPSTAIRS **

Vend. Australia, 2006. Dir., James Findlay. **10 : 30 Mins** *The story of a man who lives inside a soft drink vending machine.*

Secret Son. S. Korea, USA 2007. Dir., Doo Byung Chae. **14 Mins** *A billionaire seeks a brain transplant in order to live another 100 years.*

Voila l'histoire. Mexico, 2006. Dir., Elias Brossoise. **19 : 30 Mins** *Impressionistic movie about history, temporality, and alienation, shot on glorious 8mm film!*

Principi dell'indeterminazione (principles of indetermination). Italy, 2006 **15 Mins** *Human relationships humorously compared to Quantum physics.*

Among Garbage & Flowers. USA, 2004 Dir., Jeff M. Giordano **15 Mins.** *On the road with philosophical garbage men in New Jersey.*

TO. Canada, 2006. Dir., Ian Strang **8 Mins** *A jazz-like story of the decomposition and redemption of a relationship.*

The Pawn. USA, 2004. Dir, The Moser Brothers. **10 Mins.** *A journey into the soul of a woman whose husband is on assignment in Iraq.*

Gone. USA, 2006. Dir, Andrew Watson & Presented by Bill Madden. **3 Mins** *The worlds of film and music come together with a metaphorical environmental warning alert. (From Al Gore's "Current TV")*

A Garota (The Kid) Brazil, 2006. Dir., Fernando Pinheiro. **4 Mins** (Animated) *An animated movie that raises questions and about inequality within society.*

A Little Boy (In) Danger. Cambodia, 2007. Dir. Poy Chhunly. **50 seconds** (Animated) *A short, sharp comment on road safety in Cambodia.*

Little Boy Drinking Bad Water. Cambodia, 2007. Dir Poy Chhunly and Yannick Zanchetta. **2 : 50 Mins.** (Animated) *A rural Khmer family learns how to keep themselves safe from water-borne parasites.*

Steps. USA, 2006. Dir., Matthew Heimbecker. **3 : 30 Mins** (Animated) *An encounter along a stairway leads to an unexpected surprise.*

The Collector. USA, 2006 Dir., John Powers. **5 Mins** (Animated) *A machine collects pieces, screws, and other abstract items in this mechanical tone-poem.*

Snip, Crunch. USA, 2006. Dir., Matthew Heimbecker **1 : 45 Mins** (Animated) *Scissor-wolves attack unsuspecting sheep—but the tables are soon turned!*

Mr. Consumption. USA, 2006. Dir., Max Margulies **3 : 30 Mins** (Animated) *Mr. Consumption is born with a deformity that forces things into his mouth whenever he opens it.*

When We Were Bengs. Singapore, 2006. Dir., Alaric Tay. **12 Mins** *A colorful, vibrant short comedy about brotherhood and self-sacrifice.*

The Trainee. Singapore, 2006. Dir., Craig Rosenthal. **8 : 15 Mins** *She works the late shift in a convenience store, but you better think twice before entering.!*

When They Could Fly. USA, 2006. Dir., Piotr Kajstura **28 Mins** *A group of slaves on a South Carolina cotton plantation learn that people in Africa practice magic, and have developed the ability to fly.*

The Morning After. Canada, 2006., Dir., Casey Walker. **9 : 26 Mins** *A man and woman awaken after a one night stand and try to recall the events that led them to wind up together.*

Colours. Singapore, 2007. Dir., Derrick Lui. **8 : 50 Mins** *A color blind girl chances upon a magical pair of glasses which shows her more colors than she ever imagined.*

Avant Petallos Grillados. Spain, 2007. Dir., Velasco Broca **10 : 30 Mins** *The third film of Broca's triptych, Echoes der Buchrucken; Full of extraterrestrials, Spanish folk and fetishism!*

The Soul Collector. USA, 2006. Dir., James Higgins. **5 : 37 Mins.** *A stop-action experimental film exploring a young woman's struggles with maintaining her faith and humanity in a world of contradictions and chaos.*

Serenade. USA, Dir., Sara Huslig. **4 : 38 Mins.** *A violinist's jealousy drives him to drastic measures.*

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[NOTE: Program Repeats Afternoon]

METAHOUSE - ** DOWNSTAIRS **

La Cathedrale (The Cathedral) Mauritius 2006 Dir., Harrikrisna Anenden. **78 Mins.**

One day in the life of Lina, a young woman of Port-Louis, the capital of Mauritius—as seen through the eyes of the Saint Louis Cathedral.

Vanaja. India, USA Dir., Rajnesh Domalpalli **111 Mins**

A 15 year old girl struggles to come of age after an innocent act of sexuality turns to rape.

To Spiti me tis Elies (House of the Olive Trees) Greece, USA 2006 Dir., THOULY DOSIOS **30 Mins**

A couple's relationship is put to the test during a well-intentioned vacation to the seaside.

Ephemera. USA, 2006. Dir., James Higgins. **6 : 50 Mins**

Sara and Kali, two Cambodian/American women, follow different paths on a spiritual journey to a bittersweet conclusion. (This stop-action film was shot entirely with a 35mm still camera)

SATURDAY NIGHT JUNE 16^m: PRIME TIME PICKS!

The Golden Voice. USA, 2006. Dir., Greg Cahill. **24 : 30 Mins.** *(((Filmmaker Greg Cahill in Attendance!)))*

Ros Sereysothea was dubbed 'the golden voice of the royal capital' by King Sihanouk. But artists and musicians were targeted for execution by the Khmer Rouge, compelling Ros Sereysothea to conceal her identity as best she could. Despite the tragedy, her music lives on.

Sleepwalking Through The Mekong. USA, 2006. Dir., John Pirozzi. **70 Mins.**

Follow Cambodian 60's-Rock-inspired band DENGUE FEVER on a musical journey that leads them back to their musical roots in Cambodia. A new and inspired rockumentary with a soul in the land of Angkor!

Expiration Date. USA, 2006. Dir., Rick Stevens. **94 Mins.**

A beguiling romantic fable revolving around the impending fate of Native American Charles Silvercloud III – and the woman who changes everything!

VENUE B: Social Issue, Docs & More! - SALA ART SPACE

Counting Headz: South Afrika's Sistaz in Hip Hop. S Africa, 2006. Dir., Vusi Magubane & Erin Offer **50 Mins** *This groundbreaking documentary reveals the struggles and victories of South Afrika's women from the perspectives of 3 major actors in South Afrika's hip hop scene.*

Seasons of Migration. USA, 2006. Dir., John Bishop. **56 Mins**

Following the collapse of the Khmer Rouge, about 50,000 Cambodian refugees resettled in Long Beach, CA. In 2005, choreographer Sophiline Cheam Shapiro created an original Cambodian classical dance, "Seasons of Migration" which interprets culture shock through the experience of heavenly beings who descend to earth to live among humans.

Khmer Rouge Rice Fields: The Story of Rape Survivor Tang Kim. Cambodia, 2004. Dir., Rachana Phat **31 Mins** *This film relates Tang Kim's story and her struggles to come to terms with what happened to her during the Khmer Rouge Regime.*

Desarrollo Humano (Human Development) Spain, 2007. Dir, David Munuoz **29 : 30 Mins** *An exploration of what development means, as compared by interviewing citizens of Norway (UN's most developed nation) and Niger (least developed according to UN). The result: happiness may not be tied to notions of development as is usually understood.*

Plagues & Pleasures on the Salton Sea. USA, 2005. Dir., Christopher Metzler **73 Mins.** *A look at one of the USA's worst ecological disasters: the manmade Salton Sea in Southern CA. Hair-raising and hilarious, it's also a portrait of one of the strangest communities you've ever seen. Narrated by legendary counter-cultural filmmaker John Waters! (Pink Flamingos)*

Dos Patrias Cuba y la noche (Two Homelands Cuba and the Night) Germany, 2006 Dir., Christian Liffers **84 Mins** *Poems and prose texts of the Cuban homosexual author Reinaldo Arenas are the reference points as six men with different backgrounds and of different ages describe their life, afflictions, desires, longings and joys in Cuba.*

Millions (a lottery story). USA, 2006. Dir., Paul La Blanc **100 Mins.** *"Millions" follows six big-money lottery winners to show just how dramatically the experience can affect ordinary people. "A very affectionate film that truly captures the spirit of its subjects." - D.A. Pennebaker & Chris Hegedus, Directors "Don't Look Back" (the Bob Dylan doc)*

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