



**2007 SILVER LAKE FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES
- FRINGE FEST -**

**Where The Programming Moves Beyond the Screen and Into the Community's
Vibrant Art Galleries and Performance Art Spaces.**

LOS ANGELES, CA (April 12, 2007) The 7th annual Silver Lake Film Festival – Los Angeles' leading independent-alternative film and arts festival – has woven together a collection of art shows and live events, as part of the annual Fringe Fest, a festival-within-a festival of eclectic, trans-genre programming.

Among the artists showcased during Fringe Fest are The Guerrilla Girls, the feminist masked avengers that use facts, humor and outrageous visuals to expose sexism, racism and corruption in politics, art, film and pop culture with. (One of their favorite targets is the movie industry.)

Other highlights include Phantom Galleries LA, which will bring art to the storefronts of Silver Lake; the LA CENTER FOR DIGITAL ART, featuring an outdoor projection by THINK AGAIN, whose work recruits art making in the service of public address; and the interactive display *Miracles in Reverse*, that challenges classic cinematic technique, as well as the galleries own artists. Echo Park's MACHINE PROJECT will present "Psychobotany: Revolutionary Breakthroughs in Human/Plant Communication," and Silver Lake's new gallery truXtop gallery will present "Gridlock", a new body of work by JoeX2.

Also, Los Angeles Filmforum joins with Silver Lake Film Festival to present *JAMES BENNING: THE CALIFORNIA TRILOGY PART 1: EL VALLEY CENTRO*. Performance Art and dance comes to Silver Lake eatery Zen Sushi with Meg Wolfe's curated show ANATOMY RIOT.

Full details follow.

FRINGE FEST 2007

- **Activist Arts on display** (Venues TBD):
- **The Guerrilla Girls** are feminist masked avengers in the tradition of anonymous do-gooders like Robin Hood, Wonder Woman and Batman. They use facts, humor and outrageous visuals to expose sexism, racism and corruption in politics, art,

- film and pop culture with. One of their favorite targets is the movie industry, with low, low numbers of women and people of color working as directors, writers, editors, and cinematographers. <http://www.guerrillagirls.com>
- **Phantom Galleries LA** places temporary art installations in vacant storefront windows throughout Los Angeles county. PGLA transforms unutilized space into 24/7 public art galleries. www.PhantomGalleriesLA.com Location *TBA*

- **Los Angeles Filmforum presents**
CATCHING UP WITH JAMES BENNING:
THE CALIFORNIA TRILOGY

PART 1:

EL VALLEY CENTRO (2000, 16mm, 90 minutes)

SUNDAY MAY 6th

Egyptian Theater

6712 Hollywood Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90028

www.lafilmforum.org

lafilmforum@yahoo.com

James Benning has been making more beautiful, humorous, and thought-provoking meditations on landscapes since Los Angeles Filmforum hosted a complete retrospective of the films of James Benning in the late 1990s. All are still too rarely screened. LAFF will catch up with James Benning, by screening THE CALIFORNIA TRILOGY in May. These films - EL VALLEY CENTRO (1999), LOS (2000) and SOGOBI -- (2001) present interrelated portraits of California's agricultural, urban and wilderness landscapes, each film consisting of 35 stationary 2-minute shots.

“UTOPIA got me interested in farming, especially corporate farming. The Central Valley, where EL VALLEY CENTRO was shot, was the ultimate place; it feeds a quarter of the United States. I could look there to see how corporate farming functions. And that is how EL VALLEY CENTRO got started. Then, as I roamed around the valley, I learned more about it: that there are 13 prisons there, 8 of which are privatized, large supplies of oil, and a housing industry that is beginning to eat up the farm land. I wanted to somehow represent all of those enterprises, to locate them in this huge valley that is 550 miles long and 60 miles across. Early on I decided to make a portrait film and not use text as I did in my prior four films. I had exhausted my idea of the text/image relationship and wanted to go back to image making, to just look at things as pure images.” – James Benning

- **FOWL**
Sunday May 6th, 8PM
Casita Del Campo's Cavern Club Theater
1920 Hyperion
Los Angeles CA. 90027
Tickets: \$12 with reservation, \$15 at the door

<http://www.robbed.com>

323-969-2530

FOWL, the musical, is back by popular demand after a sold-out run in August, 2006. With a haunting, original pop score, FOWL unfolds a darkly humored modern musical, guided by the vocal styling of Jer Ber Jones, and the intricate choreography of SIR HEFFINGTON. Cleverly designed sets and couture costumers of paper add to this highly original multi-media production. Co-starring is Tara Avise, Lou Becker and Nina McNeely.

Deep in the forest the sweet chirping sounds of a rare pregnant, teenage lady-bird echo beautifully. Jer Ber Jones sings carefree, instinctually assembling a comfy nest for her unborn chicklettes. Under the light of a full moon, alone, high on alcohol and drugs, Jer Ber falls prematurely into labor, unloading three special baby chicks. Utterly frustrated, bored and alone, Jer Ber soon boots her babes off to the city, where they turn tricks and enroll in the Barbizon Modeling Academy. Will the family ever reunite? Will Jer Ber's babies survive? Come see FOWL and find out for yourself.

- **ANATOMY RIOT**

MONDAY MAY 7

8:00 pm

\$7 at the door, no reservations

Upstairs Lounge at Zen Sushi

2609 Hyperion Ave.

Silver Lake, CA 90027

www.anatomyriot.org

With low-tech, do-it-yourself spirit in an easygoing setting, Anatomy Riot is an ongoing monthly dance/performance series at Zen Sushi, curated by "weird but wonderful" choreographer Meg Wolfe. Anatomy Riot gives local artists a chance to get their work in front of an audience, and encourages creative exploration in a casual atmosphere of community and collaboration. Presenting short works by 7-10 artists each month, viewers can grab a drink at the bar (or some sushi downstairs), and are spared from the high ticket prices and seat-squirring formality of a more traditional theater setting, while seeing a diversity of work by up-and-coming artists.

- **LOST FILM FEST (Hosted by VJ Scott Beibin)**

Monday May 7th

Location TBD

If you like pranks on corporations and you really hate George W Bush, you'll love the Lost Film Fest cinema laboratory. The program is VJ'd and hosted by Scott Beibin (Evil Twin Booking Agency founder and mastermind of the Jerry Springer episode with JP of The Locust.) It's a performance that incorporates politically charged and humorous short films by folks like *The Yes Men*, *Guerrilla News Network*, as well as news that doesn't make the news, namely riot footage from around the world. Lost Film Fest from West Philadelphia travels the planet year

round doing shows in all kinds of venues and settings. The lineup of Lost Film Fest changes all the time, so you never know what you'll get except for a fast paced mix combining elements of *Pee Wee's Playhouse*, *MST3K*, *Noam Chomsky*, and *Laurie Anderson*. A tour is currently in the works for both Lost Film Fest and revolutionary Hip Hop Legends, *Dead Prez*.

Visit the website for more info: www.lostfilmfest.org
<<http://www.lostfilmfest.org>> + www.eviltwinbooking.org
<<http://www.eviltwinbooking.org>>

- **LA CENTER FOR DIGITAL ART**

107 W 5th St
Los Angeles, CA 90013
(213) 629-1102

www.lacda.com

Thursday May 10 - Saturday June 2

Opening Night Reception:

Thursday May 10th 7 p.m. (part of Downtown ARTWALK (12-9 p.m.)

Director Rex Bruce's **Los Angeles Center For Digital Art** is dedicated to the propagation of all forms of digital art, supporting local, international, emerging and established artists in our gallery. We have an ongoing schedule of exhibits and competitions, and produce editions of wide format archival prints.

THINK AGAIN is two-person public art collaboration between David John Attyah (Los Angeles) and S.A. Bachman (Boston/Los Angeles.) THINK AGAIN's work recruits artmaking in the service of public address. Exhibitions: Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona, Museum of New Art, Exit Art, and Track 16 Gallery. Collections: Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Palacio de Bellas Artes, and Center for the Study of Political Graphics. Publications: *Artforum*, *Ms. Magazine*, *Social Text*, *The Progressive*, [Graphic Agitation 2](#), and [Peace Signs: The Anti-War Movement Illustrated](#). A monograph of their work [A Brief History of Outrage](#) was published in 2003.

www.agitart.org <<http://www.agitart.org>>

www.saltinthewound.org <<http://www.saltinthewound.org>>

- **"Miracles in Reverse"** an ambitious challenge to classic cinematic technique is an interactive DVD-ROM written, directed, produced and performed by Julia Heyward. This interactive feature "invites single players to navigate a labyrinthine, Blair-Witch style tale by "scratching" hot spots in the film with a mouse, much the way D.J.'s scratch vinyl records to alter their sound." *L. Yablonsky, The New York Times* "dizzily provocative, the film works like memory.... It's a dark, harrowing piece, and the technology works in its favor." *Cate McQuaid/Boston Globe*. Aerial photographs of Los Angeles by Tyler Golden and other digital art also on display.

- **MACHINE PROJECT**

1200 D North Alvarado Street
Los Angeles, CA 90026
213-483-8761

Opening night for “Psychobotany: Revolutionary Breakthroughs in Human/Plant Communication” w/ the Center for Tactical Magic:

Saturday, May 12, 2007 (time TBA, but probably 8pm)

Aaron Gach and the Center for Tactical Magic present Psychobotany: Revolutionary Breakthroughs in Human/Plant Communication opening Saturday, May 12, 2007.

It is rumored that attendees will witness: documentation of collaborations between plants, dancers, and synthesizers in the 70s; a plant alerting its owner of under watering via telephone; a potion corner; and participate in a social experiment that tests the collective impact of positive and negative thoughts on tomato plants. Druids may or may not be in attendance. All plants and humans welcome.

Existing to encourage the heroic experiments of the gracefully over-ambitious, Machine Project presents workshops, events, installations and performances on a semi-regular basis. Its aim is to educate and collaborate with artists to produce site-specific, non-commercial work, and to promote conversations between artists, scientists, poets, technicians, performers and the communities of Los Angeles as a whole.

<http://www.machineproject.com/2007/04/02/psychobotany/>

- **truXtop gallery**

2876 rowena ave
los angeles ca 90039
323.661.1665
www.truXtopgallery.com

truXtop@gmail.com

2pm-8pm, wed-sun

Special SLFF event Wednesday May 9th (time TBA)

truXtop gallery is proud to present "Gridlock", a new body of work by JoeX2. Urban artist JoeX2 began his art career in the Philadelphia train yards during the early eighties. Since relocating to Los Angeles, he has become a favorite of the entertainment industry with a resume that includes CSI:NY, Everybody Hates Chris, Snoop Dogg, G Unit and many others. His latest body of work, "Gridlock" is a series of his signature pattern canvas, and will be on display at truXtop April 14th through mid May 13th.

Relatively new to the scene, truXtop gallery was created in 2006 by two artists to help bridge the gap between local underground artists and the public at large.

And similar its roadside counterparts, truXtop strives to provide a small respite from the mundane: a break from the mainstream by creatively refueling and providing an artistic forum for its diverse patrons to engage in discussions relevant to their local creative issues and aspirations. truXtop brings passion paired with approachability back to the gallery with work that is attainable to art enthusiasts and casual collectors alike. With most of the space dedicated strictly to showcasing the more "traditional" mediums such as paintings and photography (and everything in between), there is still space made for a small revolving and evolving selection of some of the founders' favorite works in alternate forms, such as movies, books, and creations from local crafts(wo)men. Engaging, exciting, and up to no good...X marks the spot.

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From May 3rd until May 12th, 2007, Silver Lake Film Festival will screen more than 200 narrative and documentary features, and short films and videos. The West Coast premiere of "Fay Grim," the latest film by director Hal Hartley, starring Parker Posey and Jeff Goldblum, has been tapped for the Opening Night Gala. Jonathan Dayton and Valerie Faris, co-directors of "Little Miss Sunshine," are among this year's festival honorees. Its parallel MusicFest, featuring music documentaries and live musical performances, will be presented for the first time by ASCAP and will showcase leading recording acts performing live in an intimate club setting, including the legendary *Circle Jerks* as well as *Dengue Fever*, *400 Blows*, *Sea Wolf* and *The Bird and The Bee*.

The 2007 Silver Lake Film Festival is under the direction of Kate Marciniak, Greg Ptacek and Saskia Wilson-Brown and produced by the passion, talent and energy of an extraordinary group of volunteers. This year's festival is made possible by the generous contributions of our sponsors, including ASCAP, CBS Outdoor, Charter Communications, Crushed Planet, First Independent Pictures, Five Star Theatres The Echo and EchoPlex, Karl Strauss Beer, Kodak, Magnolia Pictures, MusicPlus TV, Mr. T. J. Singh and Trailer Park.

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*** Artwork and photos are available online at

For more information on the 7th Annual Silver Lake Film Festival, please visit:
www.silverlakefilmfestival.org.

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323-662-1930.

ABOUT SILVER LAKE FILM FESTIVAL

Silver Lake Film Festival, a nonprofit arts organization, was established in 2000 to provide a showcase for truly independent-alternative films in the entertainment capital of the world. Seven years later, the festival has evolved into Los Angeles' leading independent film, music & art festival, and the only major media arts event in the city's hip and burgeoning Eastside, which includes silver lake, Los Feliz, Echo Park, Hollywood and Downtown.