

## WHAT'S NEW ON THE BFFS NATIONAL BLOCK BOOKING SCHEME?

### MAN PUSH CART

### FEATURE

Ramin Bahrani | US | 2006 | 86mins

**WINNER FIPRESCI CRITIC'S AWARD - LONDON FILM FESTIVAL 2006**



Man Push Cart tells the story of Ahmad, a former Pakistani rock singer who struggles to drag his heavy coffee cart along the streets of Manhattan in order to provide a better life for his estranged young son. The routine of his hard life is brightened by two developments; the arrival of a young Spanish woman working in a newspaper kiosk; and an offer of assistance from a wealthy fellow Pakistani, who remembers Ahmad's former life as a rock star.

Inspired by The Myth of Sisyphus, Man Push Cart is a beautifully observed, subtle, haunting and insightful first feature that reveals a rarely depicted community in the Big Apple and is highlighted by strong central performances and stunning photography

*'The film is not only visually excellent, but it has a powerful central performance for Ahmad Razvi.'* **Fibresci Jury**

### HONEYDRIPPER

### FEATURE

John Sayles | US | 2008 | 125mins

**AUDIENCE RI: 74% AT ICO SCREENING DAYS, MARCH 2008**



It's a make or break weekend for Tyrone Purvis (Danny Glover), the proprietor of the Honeydrinker Lounge. Deep in debt, Tyrone is desperate to bring back the crowds that used to come to his place. He decides to lay off his long-time blues singer Bertha Mae, and announces that he's hired a famous guitar player, Guitar Sam, for a one night only gig in order to save the club.

Into town drifts Sonny Blake, a young man with nothing to his name but big dreams and the guitar case in his hand. Rejected by Tyrone when he applies to play at the Honeydrinker, he is intercepted by the corrupt local Sheriff, arrested for vagrancy and rented out as an unpaid cotton picker to the highest bidder. But when Guitar Sam fails arrive, Tyrone turns to Sonny as The Honeydrinker lounge is all set to play its part in rock n' roll history.

*'There's a host of lovely performances from a superb cast ... immaculately lit camerawork and a stirring tribute to the power of music. Oh, and Glover is great.'* **Time Out**

### EMMA'S BLISS

### FEATURE

Sven Taddicken | Germany | 2006 | 99mins

**AUDIENCE RI: 89.5% AT BFFS SOUTH WEST VIEWING SESSION, MARCH 2009**



Emma is a pig-breeder at a shabby and indebted farm. She slaughters the pigs in her own way, treating them lovingly till the last day. The eventual lethal cut is administered tenderly and in Emma's strong arms the dying animals cease bleeding, calmly and submissively. However, Emma is lonely, replacing human company with her motor-bike.

One night a Jaguar crashes on her farm - inside the wrecked car lies an unconscious man and a bag full of money. Emma seems to have struck luck - fate has thrown money and companionship into her lap. Suspecting that he has stolen the money, Emma hides the man in her home and the money under her bed.

*'Sophomore feature by helmer Sven Taddicken hitches appealing leads to handsome lensing for story of an insolvent farm girl finding love with a man running from fast-approaching mortality.'* **Variety**

## THE DEVIL CAME ON HORSEBACK

DOCUMENTARY

Anne Sundberg, Ricki Stern | US | 2008 | 85mins

**WINNER OF THE SEEDS OF WAR AWARD - FULL FRAME DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL**



Using the exclusive photographs and first hand testimony of former U.S. Marine Captain Brian Steidle, *The Devil Came on Horseback* takes the viewer on an emotionally charged journey into the heart of Darfur, Sudan, where an Arab run government is systematically executing a plan to rid the province of its black African citizens. As an official military observer, Steidle had access to parts of the country that no journalist could penetrate. He was unprepared for what he would witness and experience, including being fired upon, taken hostage, and being unable to intervene to save the lives of young children. Ultimately frustrated by the inaction of the international community, Steidle resigned and returned to the US to expose the images and stories of lives systematically destroyed.

*'Brutal, urgent, devastating — the documentary demands to be seen as soon as possible and by as many viewers as possible.'*  
**New York Times**

## FOUR MINUTES

FEATURE

Chris Krauss | Germany | 2008 | 112mins

**AUDIENCE RI: 87% (TOP TITLE) AT ICO SCREENING DAYS, NOVEMBER 2008**

**BEST FEATURE FILM - SHANGHAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL 2006**



Following on from the success of *The Lives of Others* and *The Counterfeiters*, the award winning *Four Minutes* sees wrongfully imprisoned piano prodigy Jenny, a Molotov cocktail of suppressed emotions and uncontrollable rage, locked on a constant battle with those around her. Together with Traude, a professional musician who wants to expose Jenny's talents at a national competition, the pair develop a volatile teacher-pupil relationship. As the duo plan their intent to make it to the finals, it soon becomes apparent that, once there, Jenny will have only four minutes to prove herself, and no guarantee of freedom afterwards.

*'Extraordinary... brings the house down.'* **Evening Standard**

## WHY WE FIGHT

DOCUMENTARY

Eugene Jarecki | US | 2005 | 98mins

**GRAND JURY PRIZE: DOCUMENTARY – SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL 2005**



Inspired by President Dwight Eisenhower's 1961 Farewell Address in which he warned Americans about the dangers of the "military-industrial complex", filmmaker Eugene Jarecki weaves unforgettable stories of everyday citizens touched by war, with commentary by a who's who of military and Washington insiders.

Featured Senator John McGain, Gore Vidal, Richard Perle and many other, *Why We Fight* explore a half century of US foreign policy from World War II to the Iraq War, revealing how, as Eisenhower warned, political and corporate interest have become alarmingly entangled in the business of war.

*'Beautifully shot, extensively researched... the antithesis of Michael Moore'* **The Daily Telegraph**

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