

George Abrantes Jessica Aceti Jessica Aceti Jason Acosta Manlee Ahalt Kanisha Alexander Forrest Allen Mimi Allin Bjorn Anderson
 Brigid Anderson Micah Anderson Sherilyn Anderson Susan Amdt Amy Arnold Justine Ashbee Bill Aston Heather Ayres Joshua
 Baber Phillip Baca Laura Bachman Tania Backus Angela Baker Wyatt Bardouille Gabriel Barron Jan Bartko Deborah Baxter Michael
 Beck Meghan Bedell Catherine Beekman Norman Bell Norman Bell Robin Bennett Elise Benson Valerie Berg Meredith Binder
 Martin Bisch Lydia Bishop Wayne Blackwelder Chris Blanchett Todd Blubaugh Bob Bohan Julia Bohan Robert Bohan Patricia Boiko
 Amanda Bontecou Gary Boone Philip Borgnes Brendan Bowers Brendhan Bowers Shawn Boxe Tim Boyd Momcilo BozicMotzo
 Bozic Mark Bradley Elisa Brannen Mary Anne Brannigan Carole Brennan Paul Breslin Vanessa Briggs Betsey Brock Orion Brody
 William Brody Debby Bronson Michael Brooks Eric Brotman Bill Brown Frank Brown Joan Brown Selah Brown Fred Browne
 Learning Innovations Foundation Bruce Mitchell James Buchanan Jennifer Buck Heather Budd Michelle Bufano Sally Buganski
 Steve Butchko Brent Caldwell Benj Cameron Alec Carlin Heather Carter Zack Carver Mike Casassa Margaret Anne Case Peggy
 Case Fred Cassidy Terry Cassidy Adam Chambers Hamish Chappell Stephanie Chard Casey Chinn SJ Chiro Tim Christiansen
 Marth Christianson Drew Christie Maryanne Christie Matt Cibelli Rita-Lou Clarke Jonathan Clarren Karen Cleaveland Julia Clifford
 Susan Clifford Darcy Cline Chad Cobain Marne Cohen-vance Joseph Cole Thomas Coonan Amy Corcoran Richard Costleigh
 Becky Croissant Laura Jean Cronin Tony Cross Tony Cross Charles Cruz Marcus Curlee Marcus Curley Cameron Currier Sharon
 D'Amico Jeannine Daigle-Moore Marc Daudon Joe Davis Joseph Davis Paulie Davis Shaz Davison Sebastian del Castillo Steve
 Demas Dan Dembiczak Tracy Dethlefs Vanessa DeWolf Helen Divjak Kris Dobbins Julia Dooher Richard Dorigatti Robert Downing
 Barbara Drake Dave Drummond Adam Dubov Phillip Duncan Marcy Dunn Char Easter Malaika Edden Stephen Eilers Jane Ellis
 Lisa Emerling Vanessa Eng Amy Ensor Joan Erickson Thomas Evered Paul Fachini Mark Falstein Valerie Farabel Nick Federici
 Heather Ferrell Bret Fetzer Rich Fisher Dan Fleming Eric Flom Bredan Flynn Brendan Flynn Julie Forkasdi Donald Foster

Northwest Film Forum Fiscal Year 2007 Annual Report



Paul Frasier
 Charles... Audrey Freudenbe
 Margaret Friedman borah Froula Chris Fry Richard
 Gackman Marcos Garcia Mark Garcia Rob Gardner M
 Gargiulo April Garoutte The George Phillip Giarratar
 Phillip Giarratano Josh Gilbert Stephen Glover

Robert Goettel Brett Goldberg Laurence Golding Christy Gorley John Gow Susie Graham William Green Terisa Greenan Dustin
 Guy Diane Hadfield Karen Hadley Ann Hadlock Ben Haley Lisa Halpern Rhys Hamlet Lisa Hammerlee Kristine Hammond Melissa
 Handler Cameron Hansen Michael Hansmire Bob Harmon Don Harmon Jeffery Harms Mike Harring Martha Hartman Prescott
 Harvey Ben Hasko Dave Hawes Joe Hawkins Suzanne Hays John Healy Michael Hebb Caroline Hedreen Jane Hedreen Richard
 Hedreen Patrick Heeley Kerry Hegedus John Helde James Helman Jaclyn Henretig Robert Henretig Angelica Hesse Michelle Ann
 Hickey Cheryl Hidalgo Joanne Hill Cindy Ho Briana Holan Nation Holmes Frank Hopper ML Hovik-Musgrove Crystal Huckabay
 Joseph Hudson Beatrice Hull Christina Hunt Claudette Hunt Tomas Hunt Tomas Hunt A Idom Aileen Jane Imperial Heather Islander
 Richard Jackman Ben Jaymes Ben Jaynes Jeff Jeanote Marilyn Jensen Rich Jensen Joe Johansson Britta Johnson Jay Johnston
 Deborah Jones Karn Junkinsmith Ben Kasulke Michael Katz Bart Kaufman John Kaufmann Joyce Kawahara Brian Kennedy Ann
 M. Kenney Suzanne Keogh Corinne Kerr Stephanie Kese Nancy Kessler Whitney Keyes Andrea Kim Penny Kimmel Kelly King
 Michelle King Denise Kirby Brian Kirk Will Kitchings Bertin Koala Tony Konichek Ross Laing Ross Lainy Steven Lane Brandon
 Lanich David Larson Jason Laurvic Jason Laurvick Robert Lawson Erik Ledrew Terry Lee Conyers Richard Lefebvre Rhianna
 Lehman Sten Leksen Eric Leuschner Barbara Lewis Bill Lewis Matt Lewis Kevin Lilley Jake Lin Joseph Lin Phil Lira Millie
 Livingston-Siceloff Becky Lofaso Jason Lohr-Johnson Ron Lome Jay Love Jason Lowe Roland Lundberg Terri Lundberg Mark
 Lundsten Lisa MacDonald Obalaye Macharia Nan Macy Layne Maheu Marie Malik Marie Malik Alex Mandarino Cynthia Marie
 Creasey Anne Mathern Biju Mathew Christen Mattix Mark Mattson Erika Mayfield Selin McCallum Michelle McCarthy Denee
 McCloud Richard McCounaughy Julie McCoy Sala McDaniel Duncan McDougal Duncan McDougall Beth Ann McKellips Sharon
 McKenna Trish Mcrae Sarah Meardon Susan Metters Arne Meyer Thomas Milewski Erin Miller Howard Miller Justin Minich Thomas
 Moore Leilani Moreau Jeffrey Morehouse Andrew Morgan Matthew Moriarty Mary Morrison Mary Morrison Brandon Mosby John
 Mulrooney Bill Murray Jimmy Nacey Roya Naini Leslie Napoles David Natale Tese Neighbor Callie Nelson Carl Nelson Geraldine
 Niederhauser Marissa Niederhauser Nathan Niederhauser Terry Niederhauser Toshiya Niikura Patrick Nugent Tobi Nussbaum Kara
 Nykreim Rosemari Ogden Jason Olsan Peter Onglim Post Options Eric Ostrowski Scott Ottaway Fiona Otway Judy Paalberg Craig
 Packard Michael Pak Christian Palmer Ingrid Pape Sheldon Przemyslaw Parkyak Rhea Patton Dayna Payne Amy Peaser Mahalie
 Pech Nancy Peel Matthew Perez Dawn Perkins Josh Phenicie Linas Phillips Victor Pleasant Sandra Portulano Brook Powell
 Stephen Powell Anna Powers Zina Pozen Adam Pranica Janiel Prsbrey Katerina Prochaska Jesse Puttnam Wendy Quesinberry
 Matt Ralston Alan Rappoport Sidse Rascon-powell Michael Raymond Michael Raymond Peter Redmayne Tom Reese Larry
 ReidRichard Reynolds Tonjia Rhen Renee Rhodes Blair Rinn Jennifer Ritchey Christophe Ritenour Gene Robertson Mark
 Robinson Wendi Rolands Jed Rosenzweig Josephine Roskin William Ross Tracey Rowland Wendi Rowlands Wendy Rowlands
 Kevin Roy Rene Rudge Cameron Rumford David Russell Jason Ryan Maj. Scott Ryan MJ Saber Rebecca Sadinski Ann Sakaguchi
 Frank Sanchez Eduardo Sandoval Radmila Sarac Cathy Sarkowsky Carolyn Sarver Richard Sasaki Kenneth and Janet Saunderson
 Sebastian Scanduzzi Elisa Schneider Jennifer Schnider Margaret Schuler Jeffrey Schultz Steven Schultz Andrea Schuster Alex

Letter From the Executive Director

When I began at Northwest Film Forum twelve years ago, the operating budget was simple: rent, light, phone, splicing tape. A feature film, *The Wright Brothers*, was being edited in the space, and a director was coming down from Alaska to edit a second one. In a few quick years, we bought cameras, tackled film production, purchased our first cinema, and dove into the world of digital post-production.

During all this time, change has been a constant, and I'm proud to say we have remained relevant. We've responded to the needs of the artistic community by commissioning work, presenting multimedia film and performance pieces, and starting a local film festival. We've addressed changing exhibition trends such as the explosion in documentary filmmaking, theatrical screenings on video, and curating touring programs by foreign directors. All this under one roof, in shared home for filmmakers and film lovers.

Later this summer, I will be stepping down from my position as Executive Director. This is a time when the organization I love dearly is strong and growing. The film community is producing better work than ever, and our cinemas continue to show more ambitious programming. Having helped build the film center the city needed, I'm looking forward to enjoying and supporting it for years to come.

Thank you for helping build NWFF into what it has become.



Michael Seiwerath

July 2008



Todd Rohal directs Augustine Vanden Brulle in his one shot film commissioned by NWFF

FY 2007: The Year in Numbers

850: Current Members

600: Filmmakers and workshop attendees supported by NWFF

200: Separate film programs that played in our cinema

9: Teams who made the bike-in feature film

100: Films supported by NWFF

\$24,898: Amount paid out in artist fees

\$1,000,000+ : Grand total NWFF has helped raise for Start-to-Finish films

On the cover: a partial list of filmmakers supported by NWFF programs

Northwest Film Forum 1515 12th Ave. • Seattle, WA 98122 • www.nwfilmfourm.org • 206/329-2629

FISCAL YEAR 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

FY07: October 2007- September 2007

OVERVIEW

FY07 was a year of strong artistic accomplishments at Northwest Film Forum; it was the first year since moving to 12th Avenue in 2004 that the organization was able to put construction and a capital campaign behind and focus on programs. In particular, NWFF grew its national presence with touring programs, artist collaborations and film production. Local work and commissions toured more than ever, increasing NWFF's national impact in film. An otherwise successful year, which finished with a surplus, was challenged largely by a downturn in cinema admissions.

MAKING MOVIES

The Start-to-Finish program hit a milestone, raising more money than ever before for a feature film as well as benefiting from a national casting search. The current Start-to-Finish movie, *The Immaculate Conception of Little Dizzle*, written and directed by David Russo and produced by Peggy Case, was the first Seattle film to be incentivized by WashingtonFilmWorks. This \$100,000 incentive, plus a leadership gift from The Paul G. Allen Family Foundation and private equity investment provided a strong foundation for the movie, which has a budget well in excess of a half million dollars. Shot in June 2007, it is currently in post-production. We anticipate an early 2009 premiere.

Signature Shorts, a pilot project to commission 35mm shorts, was solidified into an annual program. These short films, made by local directors, premiere at NWFF and then play prior to features at cinemas around Western Washington. The latest two, *Cookies for Sale*, by Wes Kim, and *It was a Crushing Defeat*, by Matt McCormick, were completed in 2007 and have begun touring to other venues.

FY07 brought a solution to a question many arts organizations ask: How do you make a lasting connection to an artist who is only in town for a few days? We've answered it with a new project that invites visiting artists to collaborate with local filmmakers and actors. The One Shot Film Challenge gives the resources of the organization (film or video camera, stock, editing, production and casting assistance) to aid in the making of a movie comprised of a single shot. To date, Andrew Bujalski (*Funny Ha Ha*) Todd Rohal (*The Guatemalan Handshake*), Aaron Katz (*Quiet City*) and Joe Swanberg (*Hannah Takes the Stairs*) have made shorts while visiting Northwest Film Forum.

This spirit of production infused our Quarterly Film Challenge series, where a call goes out to make a movie on a specific subject or with narrow restrictions. In four screenings, 50 new movies were premiered by local directors. On a larger scale, Seattle's Bike-in moved to our neighborhood park, Cal Anderson Park. Our annual outdoor movie night celebrating all things bicycle premiered the world's first collaboratively made bicycle feature film. *Forest, Lilly and the Golden Bike* was directed by 16 different filmmaking teams.

In addition to projects produced or screened by NWFF, our members continue to make quality work of all lengths, genres and budgets. During the year NWFF aided in the production of more than a 100 different films, and taught 65 workshops. Indigenous Northwest film production keeps getting stronger and better. 2007 saw a Seattle film nominated for an Academy Award and another play at Cannes. We're optimistic this tremendous growth in the art form will continue.



Wes Kim's *Cookies For Sale*, commissioned through NWFF's Signature Shorts Program

"Northwest Film Forum is one of the great oases in Seattle's film community. There's no other place that a young filmmaker can basically walk in off the street, tell them about their crazy film idea and then have them offer to help you. That's exactly what happened to me. But my crazy idea was also a good one and with a lot of support and guidance from the staff, it turned into an award winning film, *Walking To Werner*."

-Linus Phillips



NWFF's annual Bike-In, a free outdoor screening in Cal Anderson Park

SHOWING GREAT WORK

A highlight of the film program at NWFF was American independent cinema. One of our highest grossing films of the year was *Walking to Werner*, a new documentary by Seattle filmmaker Linas Phillips. A project supported by NWFF from production onward, it provided a unique voice NWFF was ready to champion. The October 2006 Local Sightings Film Festival, grew in its reputation as a discovery festival, as Calvin Reeder's *The Rambler* went for Local Sightings to Sundance 2007. Three filmmakers of the so-called "Mumblecore" movement visited with work and were well received.

International cinema retained a strong presence in the cinemas, with perhaps our most ambitious year ever. Seattle audiences were given rare chances to see series of Bela Tarr, the Canadian New Wave, Peter Whitehead, Kenji Mizoguchi, Jacques Rivette and Russian Fantastik Cinema.

Strengthening our collaboration with the Seattle International Film Festival, NWFF co-presented and co-curated SIFF's Alternate Cinema program, the festival's annual survey of experimental and cutting edge filmmaking. In a spirit of co-operation, the two organizations sent Program Director Adam Sekuler to the Rotterdam Film Festival for research. Under the direction of Liz Shepherd, our own Children's Film Festival Seattle continued to grow by leaps and bounds, with attendance at the February 2007 event rising 25% over the year before.



Sansho the Bailiff, from the series Long Take on Mizoguchi

NATIONAL IMPACT

NWFF programs once again had an impact beyond our city. Start-to-Finish feature film *Police Beat* became the first feature film NWFF distributed in earnest. It completed a ten-city tour, playing to glowing press and had a national DVD release. Following up with this, Linas Phillip's *Walking to Werner* was distributed to nine cities, bringing a worthy film before audiences across the country.

Our children's film programming was sought out by venues around the country, selections from the 2007 Children's Film Festival played at the REDCAT theater in Los Angeles and went on to eight smaller towns. Two live scores commissioned by NWFF for family programming have gone on to have strong lives beyond our space. In spring 2007, NWFF commissioned a new harp score to the 1924 version of *Peter Pan*. The score was composed and performed by Leslie McMichael, who has now toured with the film. Legendary roots musicians Danny Barnes and Robbie Fulks wrote and performed a live score for the silent classic *Tramp, Tramp*, *Tramp* to Chicago and Indiana and continue to get dates.

FINANCE

Through strength in contributed income and careful attention to expenses, NWFF was once again able to complete the year with a surplus. The year finished over budget at \$604,000, largely do to success in foundation, corporate and government grants. A significant shortfall in box office admissions was the largest weakness in earned income, and mirrored a similar trend at other non-profit cinemas in the nation.

As has happened historically at NWFF, when there was a shortfall in an income category, the staff made up for it. In this case, when the admissions shortfall became evident, spending was slightly curtailed in program expenses.

On the whole, the mission and work of NWFF remained sound in FY2007, and it was another year of bringing great programs to audiences and helping throughout the spectrum of the film community.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Michael Seiwerrath
Executive Director

Jennifer Roth
Board President