RE-VERZIO DOCUMENTARY FILM SERIES

February - March 2013.
Wednesdays, 6 PM
OSA ARCHIVUM
Budapest V, Arany János u. 32.
www.osaarchivum.org

OSA Archivum and Verzio Film Festival present 6 outstanding documentaries - the most popular films of the 9th Verzio International Human Rights Documentary Film Festival (www.verzio.org). Do not miss this rare opportunity to watch some of the best documentary features of 2012!

Films are screened in original language with English subtitles. Admission free.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 6 PM
5 BROKEN CAMERAS

Emad Burnat & Guy Davidi / France & The Netherlands & Israel & Palestine / 2011 / 90 min / Arabic & Hebrew


Emad is a farmer in Bil'in, just west of the city of Ramallah in the West Bank. He bought his first camera in 2005 to document the birth of his fourth son, Gibreel. With it, his passion for recording his family and his village was born. During the following years, Emad filmed the bulldozers ripping the olive trees out of the ground, the steady progress of the construction of the dividing wall, burgeoning Israeli settlements, and the villagers' non-violent protests, as well as their arrests and deaths. Emad keeps on filming even when his cameras are destroyed one after another by the soldiers' bullets and despite pleas from his wife, who fears reprisals. Palestinian Emad Burnat joins forces with Guy Davidi, an Israeli, and — from the wreckage of five broken cameras — the two filmmakers create one extraordinary work of art about one village's struggle.

Academy Award 2012, nominated,
Audience Award, IDFA 2011,
Directing Award, Sundance 2012.

VERZIO 9 AUDIENCE AWARD,
STUDENT JURY AWARD

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 6 PM
PIT No. 8

Marianna Kaat / Estonia / 2010 / 95 min / Russian

Cold, hungry, out of work? Dig a hole in your backyard and mine some coal. Ukrainian know-how for a "post-industrial" society.

Snizhne, once a flourishing Ukrainian mining town, is plagued today by crushing poverty. For years, the town's desperate residents have been illegally mining coal on their own, dangerously excavating abandoned mines, the basements of condemned buildings, the nearby woods, and even their own backyards. Everyone digs to survive: women, pensioners, unemployed miners, even children. After leaving his alcoholic mother's home, 15-year-old Yura has put his schooling and his dream of becoming a cook on hold. He takes it upon himself to provide for his sisters the only way he knows: by working the illegal pits. In the absence of adults, Yura shoulders family responsibilities — parenting, shopping, cooking meals, and making ends meet. A heart-rending story of children forced to grow up too quickly with no role models.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 6 PM
NOAH'S CANOE

Juliet Brown / UK / 2011 / 44 min / English

The journey of Noah, a female to male transgender, as he moves from a difficult past into a healing future, finding his place as a man in a family of his own.

Noah’s dream has always been to move back home to the North Woods of Maine, USA, and work with his father, building wooden canoes. But every time he tries to return to his father’s canoe shop he is overcome with fear. The mystery of the film unfolds as Noah and his mother talk of the decade when Noah lived with physical illness. Noah’s letter to his friends and family tells us about the 10 years he spent in turmoil: “The truth that has been so long hidden from even my own consciousness is that I am transgender... The parts of me that are surfacing have been suffocated and tortured...I now will be going by the name Noah. I have been waiting years for this." The film follows Noah as he finds the courage to go home. There he confronts the ghosts within himself and the constant reflection of Holly, the person he used to be. A healing that he never expected begins as Noah finds his place as a man in a family of his own.

+ SPECIAL BONUS SCREENING!

A FARMER'S DESIRE

Rebecka Rasmusson / Sweden / 2010 / 14 min / Swedish

Born in the wrong body, a Swedish farmer discovers his sexual identity after he turns fifty.
Russia on the move – a humorous and insightful chronicle of the winter 2011 protests in Moscow, filmed by a young generation of filmmakers.

Winter, Go Away! was filmed by graduates from Marina Razbezhkina and Mikhail Ugarov’s Documentary Filmmaking and Theater School. Ten young directors went on filming for two months during the protests following the parliamentary elections of 2011 in Russia. The result was a chronicle of Russia’s growing opposition mood – a chronicle of those who make the political climate and those who are dissatisfied with the makers: faces, conversations, rallies, victories and defeats prior to the presidential election. A living camera interacts with living heroes. The occasional sparks of humor and absurdity only underscore the overall seriousness of this multifaceted chronicle.

Patricio Guzmán / Chile & France & Germany & Spain / 2010 / 90 min / Spanish

Chilean desert, the starry sky above, and the bones of the opponents of the Pinochet regime below. Legendary documentarist Patricio Guzmán explores the boundaries of the cosmos and the human microcosm.

Patricio Guzmán travels 10,000 feet above sea level to the driest place on earth, the Atacama Desert, where atop the mountains astronomers from all over the world gather to observe the stars. The sky is so clear that it allows them to see right to the boundaries of the universe. The Atacama is also a place where the harsh heat of the sun keeps human remains intact: those of Pre-Columbian mummies; 19th century explorers and miners; and the bodies of political prisoners who were “disappeared” by the Chilean army after the military coup in September 1973. While astronomers examine the most distant and oldest galaxies, at the foot of the mountains, women, surviving relatives of the disappeared whose bodies were dumped here, search, even after twenty-five years, for the remains of their loved ones, to reclaim their families’ histories. Melding the celestial quest of the astronomers and the earthly one of the women, Nostalgia for the Light is a moving, and deeply personal odyssey.

Cannes Film Festival, 2010.

A love story like no other - a disabled couple with a unique sense of touch.

Young-Chan has been deaf and blind since childhood. As he puts it, “In the beginning there was darkness and silence.” Young-Chan had no idea how to participate in the world until he meets Soon-Ho, who also has a physical handicap. He marries her and learns to communicate with the outside world through her. By softly tapping each other’s finger, they can understand one another; sometimes it is as if they are tenderly playing a piano. This documentary follows the couple in the same gentle tempo as Young-Chan moves through his life. We see them replacing a light bulb together, receiving friends, working on a theater piece, reading a book, and gliding on a sleigh down a mountain. These everyday scenes are accompanied by a poetic voice-over by Young-Chan, in which he reflects on his existence without sight and hearing. He feels like an astronaut, but that doesn’t mean he is without a sense of beauty in the world. This becomes palpable when Young-Chan touches the bark of a tree, runs his hand through sand, or brushes raindrops on a window pane with his fingertips. A unique testimony of love and the will to overcome obstacles.

Seung-Jun Yi / South Korea & Japan & Finland / 2011 / 87 min / Korean

IDFA Best Feature Documentary 2011, Best World Feature at Silverdocs 2012.

VERZIO 9 OPENING FILM!