

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
LIFT ROUND-UP 2015 SCREENS AT THE BLOOR HOT DOCS CINEMA
SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2016 AT 6:00PM

Toronto, December 18, 2015—The **Liaison of Independent Filmmakers of Toronto (LIFT)** is pleased to announce the **LIFT Round-Up 2015**, a screening of films made by LIFT members over the last year. LIFT is a member-driven, charitable organization that provides affordable access to equipment, training and facilities for those who want to make films, out of a passion for, and commitment to, the practice of filmmaking. Join us on **Sunday, January 10, 2016** for a special presentation of recent short films made by LIFT members.

LIFT supports a diversity of filmmakers and filmmaking genres and the programme reflects this—from documentary to dramatic narrative to music video and experimental film. The films were made using LIFT's equipment, ranging from Super 8mm and 16mm to 35mm and High-Definition Video.

Program:

#####, **Dan Smeby**, experimental documentary, 2 min.

This short film encapsulates the closing evening of the 2015 **TOM Mens Fashion Week*, when the runway became the dance floor. Depicted in black and white 16mm ORWO Film, hand processed as a negative, the film has an original score by the performing DJ, Jim O'Brian.

No End, **Josephine Massarella**, experimental, 6 min.

No End was inspired by a poem I wrote over the course of several months. During this process, abstract images surfaced, subsided, and settled, eventually forming the foundation of a film. What developed from this is a lyrical journey that explores the intersection of interconnectivity and lived experience. An original soundtrack composed by Graham Stewart of *Viosac* accompanies and complements the work.

A Celebration of Darkness, **Jaene F. Castrillon**, experimental, 6.5 min.

Produced through the 2015 LIFT/imagineNATIVE Mentorship program.

A woman reflects on her tortured past and goes on an unexpected journey of healing. By interacting with her younger self in a poignant moment, she awakens the warrior spirit within.

Mom, **Blake Hutchinson**, documentary, 3 min.

Stacey Hutchinson is a young mother who has just come across an awful disease that is back from the past to haunt her. She talks about the pain and surviving after multiple times in the hospital. We learn the true meaning of what people go through in life threatening situations.

A-Frame, **Sylvain Chaussée**, experimental, 5 min.

Watching the light change in a room, *A-Frame* is a modest study of a beloved workspace, the old Niagara Custom Lab on Dufferin Street in Toronto.

The Bridge, **Jay Smith**, drama, 10 min.

A heartbroken woman helps a kindred spirit find new meaning in life.

Fragments #5, **Pedro Ferreira**, experimental, 9 min.

Canadian found 8mm home movies from the 60's and 70's, spliced and blown-up to 16mm using a JK Optical Printer. Hand painted, scratched and deteriorated moving images, crafted frame-by-frame. These are fragments of memories that interpret the human condition in a specific space and time, capturing the minuscule human existence. We record images to extend our memory but they will never replace our experience.

La Llorona, **Maria Cruz**, horror, 2.5 min.

La Llorona is a mythical character from Latin America. She is the archetype of a traditional Hispanic woman from the colonial era. There are religious undertones to the story since she is punished for her sins and cursed to walk the earth looking for her drowned children. Her entire existence is a tragic one and the only thing she can do now is continue to search in vain. In this film, she suffers from constant delusions seeing her children everywhere she goes.

Wild Currents, **Stephen Broomer**, experimental, 6.5 min.

A tragic mistake jolts Teddy and Joanne into limbo. Their spirits bear witness to their past misuse of household appliances, as if by electric charge they might uncoil their spectral presences from home and garden. A myth and a ghost story, for Christine Lucy Latimer, on her birthday, 2015.

BLACK HOLE MUSIC, **Zachary Finkelstein**, experimental, 7 min.

BLACK HOLE MUSIC uses a unique light painting technique on 35mm film and a visceral original sound design to imagine the effects of extreme gravity on light and sound waves. The project was inspired by the findings of a team of British astronomers who reported a type of sonic emission from a black hole in a distant cluster of galaxies.

you rub me the wrong way, **Scott Miller Berry**, experimental, 3 min.

you rub me the wrong way was created as part of *SOUND + VISION TORONTO* produced by Basement Arts. This project paired 5 local filmmakers with 5 local bands/musicians and 1 local neighborhood. I was asked to interpret and adapt a song by the potent forces behind post-punk band *Pants & Tie* in Toronto's dynamic Kensington Market.

Penelopa's Dream, **Maria Flawia Litwin**, experimental, 9.5 min.

Penelopa's Dream is an investigation into myths, existentialism and labour. The topics are related through the prism of the performer's dream mixing Greek mythology of Penelopa within contemporary Canadian landscape. The media used: 8mm, 16mm and HD are translated into 35mm—further underlining the collapse between the past and present, emphasizing the subtle ideological shifts and their relationship to existential angst.

LIFT ROUND-UP 2015

Sunday, January 10, 2016

6:00pm

Bloor Hot Docs Cinema

506 Bloor Street West

Toronto, Ontario M5S 1Y5

Admission: \$8.00 for LIFT and Bloor Hot Docs Cinema Members, \$10.00 for non-members

About the Liaison of Independent Filmmakers of Toronto (LIFT)

The Liaison of Independent Filmmakers of Toronto (LIFT) is Canada's foremost artist-run production and education organization dedicated to celebrating excellence in the moving image. LIFT exists to provide support and encouragement for independent filmmakers and artists through affordable access to production, post-production and exhibition equipment; professional and creative development; workshops and courses; commissioning and exhibitions; artist-residencies; and a variety of other services. LIFT is supported by its membership, Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council, Ontario Trillium Foundation, Ontario Arts Foundation, the Government of Ontario and the Toronto Arts Council.

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Contact:

For additional information please see <http://lift.ca> or e-mail Executive Director Chris Kennedy at director@lift.on.ca with subject heading: LIFT Round-Up 2015

Preview links and photo stills available upon request.