

2003-2007

Movie Monday

Feedback from filmmakers

Belated thanks again for the terrific screening at MM last week! You are an organizer extraordinaire. In your low-key way, you create great vibes for the people who are lucky enough to work with you and attend your screenings, a veritable MM family. The art exhibit and Pandora connection were added bonuses.

Bonnie Sherr Klein (November 2006)

Just wanted to let you know that I really enjoyed the screening of my short film at Movie Monday. I especially appreciate your efforts to get the word out to the local aboriginal community - as well as to the community at large by arranging my CBC radio interview. Not only was the audience engaged and enthusiastic, but having three accomplished First Nations women there who could share the stage with me to answer questions was a nice bonus. It felt like the issues raised by my film really got a chance to be aired out and discussed and it was one of the best Q&A's I've done in two years of screening SUCKERFISH. I'd be happy to come back with future films any time.

Lisa Jackson, filmmaker of Suckerfish (January 2007)

Thanks again for including Fetching Cody in your Movie Mondays program. I can honestly say that it was one of the most fulfilling screenings I have ever attended, with probably the best Q&A sessions ever. Please keep up the great work, you are a pleasure to deal with, and I feel the Movie Monday experience is a really important addition to the cultural landscape.

*David Ray, Cheap And Dirty Productions,
Director - Fetching Cody & Producer - A Safer Sex Trade (January 2007)*

"Curating a program for Movie Mondays gave me the opportunity to present a diverse range of animation to an audience carefully built up from a community on the fringes of our society. I selected films loosely around the theme of family but also included a lot of experimental work. There was an extremely lively discussion at the end of the evening. People were very willing to extend themselves for the wide range of films they were shown. The evening was structured so that I had the opportunity to talk between sections of films. This was both to give the audience a context for what they were about to see and a bit of a breather to absorb what they had just viewed. This is a rare and very much appreciated format. Venues for short film, especially more experimental forms of animation, are becoming increasingly rare. It was quite affirming to see the enthusiastic response."

Gail Noonan (December 2005)

"Last night's showing [THEIR BROTHERS'KEEPER] was a perfect example of what you do best. You bring together a fine filmmaker, an important subject and an appreciative audience. It was particularly rewarding for me because I was part of the Rogers jury that supported Catherine when she applied for funding for this excellent documentary. It was so gratifying to learn that she is still getting support for her very worthy projects."

Stan Fox MM's past Chair, filmmaker, teacher, mentor (August 2006)

I love the range of your programming and sort of envy the folk who live there having such a remarkable film opportunity.

*Stewart Stern, Seattle - Teacher, Screenwriter -
Rebel Without A Cause, Sybil, and Rachel, Rachel etc*

"I'm so excited to be here; because I missed the last screening ... but my producer was able to be there and he said it was a full house, like it is now, and he said it was one of the best screenings he had ever been to. I think that really speaks to the energy and the engagement that was coming from the audience."

Bruce Spangler, *Protection* (January 2004)

"Your evening alone made making the film worthwhile. "

Manfred Becker, *The Life of Me* (March 2004)

I think your event really helped get the street entrenched folks out (to the Odeon). Since then we have had a real shift in who is coming to see the film - much younger street people mixing in with the rest of the crowd which is great to see. I figure you earned your copy of FIX in spades. Thanks for all your support Bruce. Dean and I enjoyed the workshop shop immensely. I think it is the best one we have given yet. The spirit of your theatre and your program is terrific.

**Nettie Wild about our show of FIX
And her Director Workshop for filmmakers (March 2003)**

Hi Bruce Saunders, congratulations on your long running series Reel Madness. Angela Pressburger and Bonnie Klein have been urging us to send you our new video, kickstART! A Celebration, a 13 minute video (which I edited). It is about the 2001 festival that brought artists with disabilities from around the world to Vancouver for the first Canadian festival of its kind.

Vancouver filmmaker Lorna R. Boschman

I was attending a Forum on Film Financing and Distribution, and talking with Eric Paulssen about how I loved *Protection*. He said that the best screening of all was the one you had for it in Victoria....

Filmmaker Lulu Keating

Just a note to say how much I enjoyed attending your screening of Standup Samurais on Friday. I thought your audience was about as intelligent and receptive as any I've encountered, and, personally, I'd rather attend an event like yours than a dozen Toronto Film Festival receptions. Thanks again,

Ric Beairsto Writer/Producer (Vancouver) (February 2003)

I am an independent filmmaker who has screened twice at Movie Monday, once for a Canadian surfing documentary - *49Degrees* and most recently for the woman's skateboarding documentary - *SkateGirl*. Movie Monday is the best screening opportunity for filmmakers who want tough questions and brutally honest feedback. I have screened in big cities only to find that Bruce Saunders' MovieMonday is still the most eclectic forum for presentation and feedback. Keep up the funding! This is a real gem!

Vancouver filmmaker Susanne Tabata (March 2007)

Thanks so much for creating the opportunity for us to screen *My Son the Tattoo Artist* and *Crisis Call* at the Monday Movies series. We particularly appreciated the chance to reach audiences in Victoria, with both documentaries. Your loyal audience members were/are very participatory. I assume this stems from the long standing relationships that your program has developed with the community.

Toronto Filmmaker Laura Sky (April 2005)

Feedback from filmmakers