



THE 4TH ANNUAL

NATIVE SPIRIT FESTIVAL 2011



The Film Festival of Indigenous Peoples
LONDON 12TH - 22ND OCTOBER

www.nativespiritfoundation.org

**4TH NATIVE SPIRIT FESTIVAL
THE FILM FESTIVAL OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES
LONDON, 12TH to 22ND OCTOBER 2010**



The 4th Native Spirit Film Festival is an annual season of films, talks and performances promoting the Cultures of Indigenous people.

Over the past three years, the Festival has provided a space of encounters for knowledge and wisdom as well as for the preservation of ancestral values. Filmmakers, artists in general and volunteers from around the world, have contributed and helped to present through images, music and words another outlook, another dimension.

This year's selection of films takes us on yet another journey through the diverse world of indigenous peoples. This time the themes of woman and water resonate through powerful audiovisual pieces intending to give back a voice to those whose history has been tainted but whose wisdom still lives.

The festival will bring the strength of the elders, the joy of the children and the poetics of their cultures. We as human beings are embodied in this earth and words with a heart resonate in us all.

The Festival is a project of the Native Spirit Foundation, a non-for-profit charitable organisation funded and directed by indigenous people, which aims to bring people closer to the truths and realities of indigenous peoples and supports education in indigenous communities.

For more information and latest updates of the Festival's program please visit:

www.nativespiritfoundation.org



Corumbiara

"WE'RE NOT INDIANS AND WE'RE NOT NATIVE AMERICANS. WE'RE OLDER THAN BOTH CONCEPTS. WE'RE THE PEOPLE, WE'RE THE HUMAN BEINGS."

John Trudell



TUESDAY 12TH OCTOBER**Venue: SOAS****6.30 pm****OPENING CEREMONY**

**Traditional Maori Haka,
songs and dance performed
by London based Maori club
NGATI RANANA**

7 pm**TWO WORLDS-INSIDE OUT**

This is an animated short that juxtaposes several youth stories through spoken word and visual poetry

Dir Superfly Youth / 2mins / Native America / USA

REEL INJUN

Hollywood has made over 4000 films about Native people; over 100 years of movies defining how Indians are seen by the world. Reel Injun takes an entertaining and insightful look at the Hollywood Indian, exploring the portrayal of North American Natives through the history of cinema.

Dir Neil Diamond / 88mins / Native Americans / Canada

8.45 pm**NUMBER**

In Betsiamites, everyone counts in French instead of Innu. *Dir James Picard / 3 mins / Innue Nation / Quebec*

BRAN NUE DAE

Is a musical comedy set in 1969 outback Australia. In this road movie a young native boy sent to a catholic boarding school escapes to be reunited with his sweetheart and discovers that there is more to his family than he knew.

Dir Rachel Perkins / 82mins / Australia



Native New Yorker

WEDNESDAY 13TH OCTOBER**Venue: AMNESTY****INTERNATIONAL HRAC****6.15 pm****TWENTY-FOUR DOLLARS**

Animated short exploring the crucial moment in American history when Manhattan was traded to Dutch settlers for \$24 in 1609.

Dir Jane Hubbard / 3mins / Native Americans / Wales

NATIVE NEW YORKER

Filmed with a 1924 hand-crank Cine-Kodak camera, Shaman Trail Scout 'Coyote' takes a journey that transcends time, from Inwood Park (where the island was traded for beads and booze), down a native trail (now 'Broadway'), into lower Manhattan (a sacred burial ground).

Dir Steve Blich / 13mins / Native American / USA

LIFE FOR SALE

'Life For Sale' examines the biggest water market in the world, set up in Chile. Where the country's water resources "belong" to private individuals and one company can own an entire river. Even in the Atacama Desert the mining companies draw immense quantities of water to wash metals, thus condemning thousands of natives and farmers' villages to thirst and poverty.

Dir Yorgos Avgeropoulos / 61mins / Chile / Greece

7.40 pm**KON KON**

Followed by Q&A with the director

In this documentary poem, Cecilia Vicuña returns to Con Con, the birthplace of her art in Chile, where the sea is dying and an ancient tradition is being destroyed.

Dir Cecilia Vicuña / 54mins / Chile

9 pm**Presentation of Oral tradition learning project OYSI**

Presented by creators Cecilia and Jim OYSI provides a virtual space for indigenous voices to be expressed. A self-organizing network inspired by the understanding of the reciprocal exchange as seen by indigenous cultures

THURSDAY 14TH OCTOBER
Venue: SOAS

6.30 pm

GOOD BOY (COMEDY)

Dir Superfly Youth Challenge/5mins/Native.America/USA*

SECOND WIND

Dir Superfly Youth Challenge/5mins/Native.America/USA*

SQUEEGEE BANDIT

Starfish is a charismatic Māori man who survives by washing car windows on the mean streets of South Auckland, New Zealand. The film follows his struggle through nine months, cars, women, homelessness, a hundred run-ins with the cops, finding God and the Zen of window washing. CERT. 18

Dir Sandor Lau/75mins/Maori/New Zealand

8.10 pm

THE BEGINNING WAS IN WARISATA

September 20th 2003. Before the dawn broke, soldiers attacked the Aymara community of Warisata. The deaths in Warisata sparked the Bolivian Gas War, an indigenous insurrection that brought down the president and began a new era of politics in Bolivia. An 84-year-old man –don Basilio- visits present-day Warisata to meet with the eldest members.

Dir David Busto Izquierdo/75mins/Aymara People/Bolivia



The beginning was in Warisata

Room:2

6.15 pm

THE DANCE OF THE BEAR

The spectacular annual powwow at Manawan.

Dir Marie-Christine Petiquay/6mins/Atikamekw Nation/Quebec

SIGNS OUT OF TIME

The life and work of Lithuanian arqueologist Maria Gimbutas. Her findings reveal an ancient Neolithic culture at the dawn of civilization, stretching across Europe in which women had high status. Egalitarian and peaceful, "Old Europe" existed for thousands of years without war.

Dir Donna Read and Starhawk/59mins/Indigenous Europe/USA

7.45 pm

TV

Superfly Challenge 2010/4mins/Native.America/USA*



Nomads Life

NOMADS LIFE

Followed by Q&A with the director

Four travelers set off from Amsterdam in an old truck and drive to Mongolia to see how the Nomads live. Disenchanted by the Modern World, they are on a quest to find out what message the indigenous peoples of our planet have that can help the western world out of its present crisis.

Dir Ramsay S.James/52mins/Mongolia & Kasakistan/UK

FRIDAY 15TH OCTOBER**Venue: SOAS****6 pm****CORUMBIARA****They shoot Indians, don't they?**

A film crew's 20-year quest to tell the world the story of a modern day genocide in the heart of the Amazon. Corumbiara shows the startling footage of that search and the Indians - three previously uncontacted indigenous groups - side of the story.

Dir Vincent Carelli/117mins/Akuntsu & Kanoë/Brasil

8.15 pm**Live Music Performance:****Emily Burridge****Into the Amazon**

Over the last fourteen years British cellist Emily Burridge has worked with a Xavante indian community in the Mato Grosso Brazil. Singing is central to the Xavante culture and Emily was invited to record their songs. With these recordings Emily takes the audience on a brief journey into an Indian village.

Room:2**6.30 pm****LENIN IN MARACAIBO**

Lenin in Maracaibo blends documentary and fiction to tell a love story encapsulating the Bolivarian revolution in Venezuela. Yaritza a young Wayuu indigenous woman is determined to empower her community. Carlos, a young middle class man disillusioned by his aristocratic upbringing, is in search of equality and change. Together they come to learn what it means to be a revolutionary. CERT. 18

Dir Rodrigo Vazquez/96mins/Wayuu People/Venezuela/UK

8.20 pm**KUNA CONVERSATION WITH MOTHER EARTH**

Kuna elders from the Ustupu community share their wisdom about nature, spirituality and the importance to live in harmony with all of life.

Dir Ustupu community/14mins/Kuna People/Panama

8.40 pm**THE ORIGINS OF THE TIKUNA PEOPLE**

In this fiction feature, Colombian filmmaker Gustavo de la Hoz introduces us to the mythology of the Tikuna people from the Colombian Amazonia. The first of a series of indigenous mythology features where the indigenous are the protagonist.

Dir Gustavo de la Hoz/60mins/Tikuna People/Colombia

SATURDAY 16TH OCTOBER**Venue: SOAS****6 pm****UP ON THE TABLE**

Dir Superfly 2010/2mins/Native American/USA*

UNRESERVED: THE WORK OF LOUIE GONG

Artist and activist Louie Gong merges Native Coast Salish art with pop culture icon Vans, to create custom skate shoes representing the complexities of multiracial cultural identity.

Dir Tracy Rector/14mins/Native America/USA

SUDDENLY SAMI

Suddenly Sami is a personal film about identity. During the director's childhood and youth in Oslo her mother never told her about her indigenous Sami background in the Arctic area of Norway. Why didn't she? And how can the director suddenly become Sami in the middle of life? And does she really want to?

Dir Ellen-Astri Lundby/52mins/Sami People/Norway

7.30 pm**VOICES IN THE CLOUDS**

This film is an intimate exploration of one man's quest to understand his heritage. With his mother gone, Tony reunites with his relatives in Taiwan, only to discover that he and his family are descendants of a unique, indigenous tribal culture named Atayal.

Dir Aaron Hosé/77mins/Atayal People/Taiwan/USA

MONDAY 18TH OCTOBER

Venue: SOAS

6.30 pm

WE ARE

After meeting Zapatistas in Mexico, Kevin addresses his nation with a film manifesto

Dir Kevin Papatie / 3mins / Algonquine Nation

ZAPATISTA AUTONOMY: Other World is Possible

What is the Zapatista autonomous project, how is it working, which are its contributions, achievements and challenges... these are some of the questions answered in this documentary told by the Zapatistas themselves.

Producer: AMV / 70mins / Maya People / Mexico

8.00 pm

VIDEO LETTERS FROM PRISON

Embark on a journey of transformation as one family from the Pine Ridge Reservation of South Dakota finds healing through the path of the heart. The film follows the lives of three Oglala Lakota sisters as they reconnect with their incarcerated father via a series of video letters.

Dir Milt Lee / 57mins / Oglala Lakota / USA

TUESDAY 19TH OCTOBER

Venue: AMNESTY

INTERNATIONAL HRAC

6.30 pm

UMOJA, THE VILLAGE WHERE MEN ARE FORBIDDEN

Between 1970 and 2003, about 1600 local women claimed to have been raped by British soldiers stationed in Northern Kenya. Many were beaten and rejected by their husbands. In 1990, a few such women gathered and created Umoja, a village forbidden to men, which rapidly became a refuge for those in a similar plight.

Dir J. Sainclair & J. Crousillac / 52mins / Swahili & Samburu People / Kenya/France



Umoja

WILD WEST

Followed by Q&A with the director

Wild West tells the story of the Great Basin desert through the eyes of the land. Narrated by the late Corbin Harney, Western Shoshone Spiritual Leader, then aged 86.

Dir Hannah Beadman / 25mins / Western Shoshone / USA

8.20 pm

SAAGIHIDIWIN (LOVE)

Dir Shaynah Decontie Thusky / 5mins / Algonquine Nation

GROWING UP IN CAMBRIDGE BAY

A group of Inuit youth and elders tell us about their traditions and how they are coping with the fast changing modern world.

Director: Inuit Cambridge Bay community / 9mins / people / Canada

THE YUP'IK WAY

Followed by Q&A with the director

In Hooper Bay, in an Alaskan Yup'ik village, traditional ways of life are diminishing by the lure of western culture, technology, and language.

Yup'ik Way follows members of the community as they struggle with the cultural issues of living on the Alaskan tundra.

Dir Beth Edwards / 53mins / Yu'Pik people / Alaska



Children of the Amazon

WEDNESDAY 20TH OCTOBER**Venue: AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL HRAC****6.30 pm****SAVAGE***Dir Lisa Jackson / 6mins / Cree Nation / Canada***FROM KITCISAKIK TO XINGU***Dir Evelyn Papatie / 6mins / Algonquin Nation / Quebec***CHILDREN OF THE AMAZON**

Children of the Amazon follows Brazilian filmmaker Denise Zmekhol as she travels a modern highway deep into the Amazon in search of the Indigenous Surui and Negarote children she photographed fifteen years ago. Her journey tells the story of what happened to life in the largest forest on Earth when a road was built straight through its heart.

*Dir Denise Zmekhol / 72mins / Negarote and Surui People / Brasil***8.10 pm****AXUNI ATARI (HUNTER OF DEER)***Dir Raul Maximo Cortes / 11mins / Purhepecha People / Mexico***VENADO (DEER)**

Followed by Q&A with the director

Venado is a portrait of the Jicareros, responsible for complying with the mythological and epic wirr rika tradition. The shamans travel through eternal landscapes supported by their complex spirituality and great sense of humor. The past and the future, for the wirr rika, are sensitive to changes due to the actions in present time.

*Dir Pablo Fulgueira / 79mins / Tserie'kame People / Mexico***WEDNESDAY 20TH OCTOBER****Venue: BIRBECK UNIVERSITY****7.30 pm****Book presentation**

The Oxford Book of Latin American Poetry edited by Cecilia Vicu a and Ernesto Livon-Grosman. Poet Cecilia Vicu a, presents her milestone anthology, a multilingual book covering more than 500 years' production of Latin American poetry. Compiling work by 140 poets, the book includes texts by indigenous, Colonial, modernist and feminist poets, as well as 1960s' liberation pieces, and experimental and oral poetry. It presents a complex tradition that incorporates visual poetry and poetry in space. Chaired by Professor William Rowe co-director of the Contemporary poetics Research Centre at Birkbeck University and one of the translators of the Anthology.

THURSDAY 21ST OCTOBER**Venue: AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL HRAC****6 pm****HOW GREEN WAS OUR VALLEY**

The water is rising and 63 villages must leave the green valley where they live. Only a miracle from the holy shrine can save them now.

*Dir Fereshteh Joghataei / 32mins / Iran***6.30 pm**

POETRY by Albert Pellicer, Stephen Watts, William Rowe and Cecilia Vicu a.

7.50 pm**LEUFU**

In the Cordillera de los Andes, amidst a chain of volcanic peaks, Mapuche communities are standing up to defend their river - a source of life and spirituality - from yet another crime against nature.

Dir Maya Bazzini / 24mins / Mapuche People / Chile/UK

8.30 pm**LA LAGUNA NEGRA**

Followed by Q&A with the director

This film explores the core values of a subsistence farming community in Peru, the way the fabric of this society has been threatened by mining and the destructive outcome of imposing a capital intensive model of development on a society based on traditional values. *Dir Michael Watts / 23mins / Peru / UK*

WE LIVE BY THE RIVER

When their wildlife, lands and waters were contaminated by military, mining and municipal waste, indigenous nations of the Yukon River basin joined forces to protect and heal the watershed. Their work has become a global model for ecosystem protection. *Dir Karin Williams / 52mins / Canada / Alaska*

FRIDAY 22nd OCTOBER**Venue: SOAS****6.30 pm****CLOSING CEREMONY****THE STORY OF PRIEST POINT***Dir Superfly Challenge 2010* / 2mins / Native America / USA***THE YEAR ZERO**

Followed by Q&A with the director

A film about Maya prophesies with Wandering Wolf and Don Julian. At a vast gathering deep in Colombia's Amazon forest, four hundred representatives ritually prepare for 2012, which marks the end of the Maya calendar. The background of ancient Indian predictions about the near future of mankind is disclosed.

*Dir Wiek Lenssen / 83mins / Maya / Guatemala-Netherlands***8.30 pm****CROCODILE DREAMING**

A modern day supernatural myth about two estranged brothers, played by iconic Indigenous actors David Gulpiil and Tom E. Lewis.

*Dir Darlene Johnson / 27mins / Australia***FOR THE NEXT 7 GENERATIONS**

This film documents the journey of 13 Indigenous Grandmothers, as they travel around the globe to promote world peace and share their indigenous ways of healing. These wise elders, shamans and medicine women, motivated by their concern for our planet, form an alliance: They shine light on a path to a peaceful, sustainable planet.

*Dir Carole Hart / 85mins / USA***Venues details and Ticket prices: Festival Pass £35**

Amnesty International Human Rights Action Centre
17-25 New Inn Yard, London, EC2A 3EA
Day Tickets: £10/ £8 concessions
(Day ticket includes entry to all films/ performances/talks on the day)

SOAS - School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London
Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H
Tel 020 7898 4995
Free, Donations

Birbeck College
Malet Street
London WC1E 7HX, United Kingdom
Tel 020 7631 6000
Free, Donations

All proceeds made at the festival will go towards educational resources for schools in indigenous communities. Please be advised that venues have limited capacity. Tickets and festival pass will be available on the door. The Festival is a project of the Native Spirit Foundation, promoting education and the rights of indigenous peoples. Please note that this program may be subject to changes.

NATIVE SPIRIT FOUNDATION: PO Box 60545 London W2 7NF



EMBASSY OF SWEDEN

