

NAFA ANTHROPOLOGICAL FILM FESTIVAL & SEMINAR

SHARING A COMMON STORY

Ísafjörður, June 4 - 6 2014

PROGRAMME

VENUES

Háskóla­setur
Vestfjarða
(UNIVERSITY)
9:00 - 12:30

ÍSAFJARÐAR­BÍÓ
(CINEMA)
14:00 - 23:00

FREE ENTRY

www.uw.is/nafa2014



NORDNORSK
FILMSENTER



norden
Nordic Culture Point



Háskóla­setur
Vestfjarða
University Centre
of the Westfjords



Programme - NAFA Festival 2014

Nordic Anthropological Film Association

Wednesday, June 4th

- 09:00 Departure from Ísafjörður to Suðureyri
- 10:00 – 11:30 Welcoming Ceremony at *Suðureyri swimming pool*
- 11:30 – 12:30 Welcoming lunch at Talisman restaurant
- 12:30 – 14:00 Back to Ísafjörður
- 14:00 – 16:30 Screenings at *Ísafjarðarbíó cinema*
- 16:30 – 17:00 Coffee break at *Café Ísól*
- 17:00 – 19:00 Screenings at *Ísafjarðarbíó cinema*
- 19:00 – 20:30 Dinner break
- 20:30 – 23:00 Screenings at *Ísafjarðarbíó cinema*

Thursday, June 5th

- 09:00 – 10:30 Seminar (*JAF speakers*) at *University Center of the Westfjords*
- 10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break
- 11:00 – 12:30 "Sounds from the Kitchen" (*Björg Sveinbjörnsdóttir*) at *University Center of the Westfjords*
- 12:30 – 14:00 Lunch at *Café Sol*
- 14:00 – 16:30 Screenings at *Ísafjarðarbíó cinema*
- 16:30 – 17:00 Coffee break at *Café Ísól*
- 17:00 – 19:00 Screenings at *Ísafjarðarbíó cinema*
- 19:00 – 20:30 Dinner
- 20:30 – 23:00 Screenings at *Ísafjarðarbíó cinema*

Friday, June 6th

- 09:00 – 10:30 Seminar (*JAF speakers*) at *University Center of the Westfjords*
- 10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break
- 11:00 – 12:30 Screenings at *Ísafjarðarbíó cinema*
- 12:30 – 14:00 Lunch at *Café Ísól*
- 14:00 – 16:30 Screenings at *Ísafjarðarbíó cinema*
- 16:30 – 17:00 Coffee break at *Café Ísól*
- 17:00 – 20:30 Screenings at *Ísafjarðarbíó cinema*
- 20:30 – 23:00 Closing Dinner at Tjöruhúsið fish restaurant

Saturday June 7th - Sunday June 8th

Optional Excursion to Patreksfjörður, Skjaldborg Film Festival

http://www.uwestfjords.is/conferences_and_lectures/nafa_excursion/

Please note: Welcoming ceremony and lunch the first day, coffee breaks and Closing dinner the last night are for registered participants only.

SEMINAR "Sharing a Common Story"

June 4th - 6th, Ísafjörður

Venue: *The University Center of the Westfjords*

International speakers

Establishing of a Peer reviewed online Journal of Anthropological Films (JAF)

Martin Gruber (Germany)

Pille Runnel (Estonia)

Catarina Alves-Costa (Portugal)

Andy Lawrence (UK)

Metje Postma (Netherlands)

Jouko Aaltonen (Finland)

Peter Ian Crawford (Denmark)

Bjørn Arntsen (Norway)

Jan Ketil Simonsen (Norway)

Frode Storaas (Norway)

Anthropologist working with film and filmmakers interested in anthropology will reflect on the possibility of a peer reviewed online Journal of Anthropological Films (JAF), a platform where we can post a whole film for review by colleagues.

The purposes are:

1. publication (a film) in a peer reviewed Journal should qualify for academic recognition and points.
2. JAF could be a forum to debate the genre of anthropological filmmaking on the terms of our academic discipline.

Scholars from several Universities in Europe have been invited to a workshop to discuss criteria for such a Journal. For instance, should a film published on JAF require a written text that relates the film to an anthropological issue, empirical or theoretical? Should JAF be open for Work in Progress, and thus be a forum for comments to a process? Should it be called JEF (ethnographic) and not JAF, or a complete different name?

Thursday morning session will be allocated to short presentations of ideas from each representative. Friday morning session will be an open debate on a the possible future of JAF (or JEF). Many of the films selected for screening in the festival will be relevant for JAF, but not all. With JAF representatives present during the screenings we hope for lively and constructive discussions on anthropology and filmmaking.

Local presentation

Björg Sveinbjörnsdóttir: "Hljóðin í Eldhúsinu" (En. "Sounds from the Kitchen")

Björg will present her sound-poetry book "Hljóðin úr eldhúsinu" ("Sounds from the Kitchen"), based on recordings from her grandmother Gudjóna Albertsdóttir from Suðureyri in Súgandafjord in the Westfjords of Iceland. Gudjóna recorded about 60 hours of sounds mostly from her own kitchen. The recordings include singing, dialogues, thoughts on daily matters and the occasional routine sounds such as phone calls and baking noises.

Nafa2014 Film Screening Programme (Ísafjörður, 4-6 June 2014)

All screenings at *Ísafjarðarbíó Cinema*

Films listed in chronological screening order.



Title: ***The Chairman and the Lions***

Year: 2012

Length: 46 minutes

Director/filmmaker: Peter Biella

Distribution company: Documentary Educational Resources

Country of production: U.S.A.

Country/location of film: Tanzania

As recently as forty years ago, most sections of the Maasai were semi-nomadic and relatively independent of the nation-state. However, political, social and economic changes in East Africa have forced many herders to adopt a sedentary lifestyle. Chairman Frank Ikoyo, the Maasai leader of a Tanzanian village, battles many lions that threaten his community: 'bush' lawyers, land grabbers, migration, and lack of education. This film provides a glimpse into the current world of Maasai.

Being screened Wednesday 4 June at 14.00

Title: ***The Go-Between, Afar of Ethiopia***

Year: 2014

Length: 40 minutes

Director/filmmaker: Frode Storås, Rolf Scott and Getachew Kassa

Producer/production company: University Museum of Bergen and SOT film A/S

Country of production: Norway

Country/location of film: Ethiopia



The Islamic pastoral Afar inhabit the north-eastern rangelands of Ethiopia. Some have settled in towns and trade centres, where also the Ethiopian government is present with the police and other government officials. Many Afar have a foot in both sectors, having a home in town while maintaining close contact with their nomadic relatives. Hussein Hayie is a Peace and Security officer. His job is to judge whether an incident should be handled as a criminal case for the police or be left as a case to be solved the traditional way by clan elders. The Afar political organization is based on both territory and kinship. The political institutions are geared towards social control and the resolution of conflicts. The tribal leaders are often called upon to intervene before a small matter escalates to homicide and if homicide occurs, to work out agreements of compensation in order to avoid blood feuds. The film follows Hussein Hayie in town and when he visits his families in the nomadic camps. As a government employee he is continuously on duty, and in the film we see how he is called to act.

Being screened Wednesday 4 June at around 14.50



Title: **Honey**
Year: 2013
Length: 39 minutes
Director/filmmaker: Adelina Antónia, Martin Gruber, Miguel S. Hilario, Henriques Bino Job, Fatima Jose & Evaristo Quintas
Producer/production company: Martin Gruber
Country of production: Germany/Angola
Country/location of film: Angola

Honey depicts the production of honey from wild bees and different aspects of honey consumption in the highlands of central Angola, where honey is an important means of subsistence and cash income. The film was conceived and shot by a group of villagers from the Cusseque area. It is the outcome of a participatory film workshop organised by Martin Gruber and Miguel Hilario for the interdisciplinary research project 'The Future Okavango', investigating sustainable resource management in the Okavango Basin.

Being screened Wednesday 4 June at around 15.50

Title: **Sepideh – reaching for the stars**
Year: 2013
Length: 88 minutes
Director/filmmaker: Berit Madsen
Producer/production company: Radiator Film
Country of production: Denmark
Country/location of film: Iran



Photo: Paul Wilson

In a rural village far from Tehran, the night sky glows brilliantly, unimpeded by light pollution, and a teenage girl named Sepideh dreams of becoming a renowned astronomer. Lugging a telescope as tall as herself, Sepideh spends her nights stargazing, inspired by Anousheh Ansari, the first Iranian in space. But achieving such a lofty ambition is easier said than done for an Iranian girl. Her uncle threatens something rash if Sepideh persists in her unladylike behaviour, and her widowed mother warns that she cannot pay for the necessary schooling. Unfazed, Sepideh composes impassioned missives to Albert Einstein and keeps her eyes on the prize. Yet when she's passed over for a university scholarship and suitors come knocking at the door, her determination is seriously tested.

The camera is everywhere we want it to be in this magical documentary – charting the strained, yet devoted, relationship between daughter and mother and capturing unexpected moments that will change Sepideh's life forever. Shots of breathtaking constellations are windows into Sepideh's interior world and the vast universe that enthral her.

Being screened Wednesday 4 June at 17.00



Title: **Liquid Journeys**

Year: 2013

Length: 19 minutes

Director/filmmaker: Liliana Grzybowska

Producer/production company: Goldsmiths College

Country of production: UK

Country/location of film: UK

A dialogue between old and new generations, which recycles its identity, constantly becoming new things. An illustration of liquid journeys that young characters are taking to reinvent themselves in the urban cityscape of London. A question of home, belonging and identification in contemporary times.

Being screened Wednesday 4 June at around 18.45

Title: **Common Roads. Pilgrimage and Backpacking in the 21st Century**

Year: 2013

Length: 95 minutes

Director/filmmaker: Tommi Mendel

Producer/production company: Tigertoda Production

Country of production: Switzerland

Country/location of film: France, Spain, Thailand, Cambodia and Laos



Whereas the label of «pilgrim» is still mostly associated with devout persons leaving home for purely religious motives, young people taking to the road as «backpackers» are generally perceived as pleasure-seeking globetrotters. Questioning these stereotypes, anthropologist and filmmaker Tommi Mendel followed one young woman along the Way of St. James through France and Spain and another along backpacking routes through Thailand, Cambodia and Laos. Documenting their experiences and encounters over a period of three years, this film reveals intriguing parallels on various levels between what at first glance appear as two different ways of travelling.

Being screened Wednesday 4 June at 20.30



Title: **Light as steam**

Year: 2014

Length: 33 minutes

Director/filmmaker: Leonid Saveliev

Producer/production company: VCS/Tromsø

Country of production: Norway

Country/location of film: Russia

The film will acquaint the viewer with the modern practice of an ancient Russian tradition, telling about the extraordinary

emotional experience of its practitioners. Four men, very old friends from different parts of Russia, of various professions, incomes and family statuses, come to a rural isolated farmstead in a small village in the northeast of the Leningrad Region. They come here once or twice a month to take a Russian bath, smell a free river wind and listen to music of the forest, feeling its calmness. Far away from the busy city streets, inside the picturesque pine forest, there is a small wooden house, a real Russian *banya*, which is waiting for them.

Being screened Wednesday 4 June at around 22.20

Title: ***Salt water, fresh water***

Year: 2012

Length: 50 minutes

Director/filmmaker: Aya Tanaka

Distribution company: AJC!

Country of production: Belgium

Country/location of film: Japan



In the summer of 2010, as in many previous years I stay at my parents' place in Tsukushima at the bank of the river that joins the Tokyo Bay. It is just one of those customary visits, apart from the fact that I have decided to see my brother, and to really listen to him the first time since he practically locked himself up in the twilight of his narrow room. Who am I to meet? Will he be the hopeless boozier I pictured for a long time, yelling incomprehensible words at his sister?

Being screened Thursday 5 June at 14.00



Title: ***Wawata Topu – Mermaids of Timor-Leste***

Year: 2013

Length: 33 minutes

Director/filmmaker: David Palazón & Enrique Alonson

Producer/production company: incidenta | doc

Country of production: Timor-Leste

Country/location of film: Timor-Leste

Wawata Topu (women divers) are four generations of fisherwomen striving to make a living in the coastal village of Adara, West Atauro, Timor-Leste. Their daily lives, economic practices and vital concerns, as well as the contradicting discourses and

social barriers they face, are shown in this ethnographic portrait that makes visible their critical contribution to the household economies and the fishing community at large. Their underwater dancing takes place in a context of rapid social change, where the generalization of the formal education, the progressive consolidation of western moral values and the potential openness of more attractive livelihoods not linked to the sea, seem to be forging a social negotiation of the household economic strategies initiated by the oldest generation during the 1950s.

Being screened Thursday 5 June at around 15.00

Title: ***Hip-Hop, my release***

Year: 2013

Length: 22 minutes

Director/filmmaker: Simon Rasing

Producer/production company: Granada Centre for Visual Anthropology, University of Manchester

Country of production: UK

Country/location of film: Colombia

Can rap be a way out of prison? Hip-Hop is often associated with drugs and violence and therefore seen by many as a way into prison, but Alma Negra, DJ Roky and New York, three inmates at Distrital prison in Bogota, Colombia, demonstrate the opposite. For two hours a day they are allowed to leave the courtyard to write and practice their music.



Rap enables them to protest and share their experiences in life. This film tells their story and the impact Hip-Hop has on them.

Being screened Thursday 5 June at around 15.50



Title: **'Skin has Eyes and Ears', Audio-visual Ethnography in a Sepik Society**

Year: 2014

Length: 83 minutes

Director/filmmaker: Daniela Vavrova

Producer/production company: The Cairns Institute, James Cook University

Country of production: Australia

Country/location of film: Papua New Guinea

The film is an audio-visual part of my PhD thesis bearing the same title. 'Skin has Eyes

and Ears' is a saying of the Ambonwari people living in the Karawari region of East Sepik Province, Papua New Guinea. It tells how a person perceives and communicates with the external world through seeing and hearing. The film is an exploration into sensory experience of place and time among the Ambonwari during my one-year fieldwork in 2011. It explores the limits of sensory mediation through the screen while at the same time playing with the infinite options of stimulation and interconnectedness of the senses possible only through the film experience.

Being screened Thursday 5 June at 17.00

Title: **Books with remoulade**

Year: 2014

Length: 32 minutes

Director/filmmaker: Halla Mia

Producer/production company: Free University of Berlin

Country of production: Germany/Iceland

Country/location of film: Greenland



Gerda Vilholm opened Tasiilaq's first bookshop, Neriisaaq, in the year 1989. It is the first and only bookshop on the east coast of Greenland. Since then the bookshop has become much more than a bookshop.

Being screened Thursday 5 June at around 18.40



Title: **here ... I mean there**

Year: 2012

Length: 73 minutes

Director/filmmaker: Laura Capatana Juller

Producer/production company: HI FILM Productions

Country of production: Romania

Country/location of film: Romania

Ani and Sanda are two girls from Maramuresh who grew up with their grandparents. Their parents are working in Spain, like so many other Romanians. When they left their common project looked promising: with the money earned in Spain they will build a house in which the whole family will be happy. After more than 10 years

things haven't turned out as planned and the big house is far from being finished.

Being screened Thursday 5 June at 20.30

Title: **Vishneva, Belarus Soviet Union Poland**

Year: 2013

Length: 3 minutes

Director/filmmaker: Jacob J. Podber

Country of production: U.S.A.

Country/location of film: U.S.A.



“Vishneva, Belarus Soviet Union Poland” is grounded in the oral history testimony of a Holocaust survivor and has been deconstructed by the interviewee’s son. Unlike most oral histories that focus on the words of the interviewee, “Vishneva” uses silent images from the interview superimposed with typed memories that describe the unspoken pain borne by father and son through more than half a century.

Being screened Thursday 5 June at around 21.50



Title: **Life is**

Year: 2013

Length: 25 minutes

Director/filmmaker: Vladimir Perovic

Producer/production company: CZK (Centas za kulturu) Tivat

Country of production: Montenegro

Country/location of film: Montenegro

A little may mean a lot for some people.

Inhabitants of the mountainous Cuce region don’t draw too much out from their dry rocky soil: an arable field hardly room-sized, grass (for their cattle) sprouting among the stones, a wild tree to engraft, water appearing from the very rocks, a honey bee colony settled in a tree cavity. But all these little things mean life. Strong and condensed images, all presenting very tough efforts, no words uttered, no music used, compose an ode to the life of man from the arid karsts of Montenegro. Literally and metaphorically it seems the natives need to go uphill and uphill to achieve something, and to reach life.

Being screened Thursday 5 June at around 22.10

Title: **The Swan Song**

Year: 2013

Length: 52 minutes

Director/filmmaker: Aurélie Jolibert

Producer/distribution company: Les Films de l’Ouest

Country of production: France

Country/location of film: France



Francis has been a shepherd in Soulas for more than thirty years. But this year, he is too tired to go on and he must retire. Marion took over his job in the mountain. She was supposed to become the new shepherdess. But after one month at the summer pasture, she falls and dies. Francis has to go up again to finish the season.

Being screened Thursday 5 June at around 22.35



Title: ***The Kilt and the Kofte***

Year: 2014

Length: 44 minutes

Director/filmmaker: Beate Bursta & Kristin Nicolaysen

Producer/production company: University of Tromsø – The Arctic University of Norway, Faculty of Finnmark

Country of production: Norway

Country/location of film: Norway

The artist couple, Hanne and Trond, has found paradise on the Finnmark coast, an abandoned school in Snefjord, ideal for cultural entrepreneurs. They start a festival, throwing their passions, sorrows and humour into the mix. But something is out of place. In the Sámi village the cawing of seagulls and lapping of waves drown in the sound of bagpipes, and the Sámi costumes, the koftas, mingle with kilts. The film takes us to Snefjord in the quiet wintertime, when there is time for calm reflections, and in the summer time, when a festival creates a lively, noisy week. Through this portrait of an innovative artist couple we get an insight into transformations of place and identity.

Being screened Friday 6 June at 11.30

Title: ***A world not ours***

Year: 2012

Length: 93 minutes

Director/filmmaker: Mahdi Fleifel

Producer/production company: Nakba FilmWorks

Country of production: UK, Lebanon, UAE, Denmark

Country/location of film: Lebanon, Palestine

A World Not Ours is an intimate, humorous, portrait of three generations of exile in the refugee camp of Ein el-Helweh, in southern Lebanon.

Based on a wealth of personal recordings, family archives, and historical footage, the film is a sensitive and illuminating study of belonging, friendship, and family.

Being screened Friday 6 June at 14.00



Title: ***No man's land***

Year: 2013

Length: 29 minutes

Director/filmmaker: Michael Graversen

Producer/production company: National Film and Television School

Country of production: UK/Denmark

Country/location of film: Denmark

Center Jægerspris is an Asylum Centre for children who have fled to Denmark without their parents. The Centre houses 40 kids between 10-18 years of which the majority has fled from Afghanistan, Iran and Africa. The asylum process takes years to reach a verdict leaving the kids in a Limbo. Daily tensions and frustrations are projected on to the staff and several kids' developmental problems from the uncertainty and waiting. The film follows an intense couple of days at the Centre where the staff is preparing to give three boys a final rejection of their asylum application. The camera travels in and out of situations at the Centre creating an impressionistic view on the endless waiting and how it affects the boys and the staff.

Being screened Friday 6 June at around 15.45

Title: ***Weathering Love***

Year: 2013

Length: 17 minutes

Director/filmmaker: Janis Klimanovs

Producer/production company: Janis Klimanovs

Country of production: The Netherlands

Country/location of film: Latvia



"Listen how the winds of spring are singing, they will bring you joy and my greetings of love..."

February 14, 1953, Ranka

Janis Klimanovs films his grandparents. He is

interested to find out what kind of memories is most valuable to them. Their daily life is simple, and yet special, holding some magical beauty deep inside. The result is an intimate portrait, a story about a life-long romance.

Being screened Friday 6 June at 17.00



Title: ***52 Summers***

Year: 2014

Length: 57 minutes

Director/filmmaker: Fabio Cunha

Producer/production company: Fabio Cunha

Country of production: Portugal

Country/location of film: Portugal

Manuel and Augusta live in the slowly disappearing rural northeast of Portugal. Their 52 years marriage is an intimate portrait of a way of life shaped by agriculture. Aware that "quitting is dying" and that they are allowed to take vacation only when they are ill, they turn work into dialogue and joy. It's in one of those conversations that they still remember the summer fair where "they got together".

Being screened Friday 6 June at around 17.30

Title: ***The Songs of the Persian Gulf***

Year: 2013

Length: 52 minutes

Director/filmmaker: Alireza Ghassemkhan

Producer/production company: Bijan Mir Bagheri

Country of production: Iran

Country/location of film: Iran



The songs portrayed in this film are performed to relax from the pressure of the hard work at sea and the sadness filling sailors away from their families for extended periods of time. The music and rhythms are thought to be influenced by African music but a known influence is that of the poet Khayam, the great poet of Iran, and the world. The songs have survived the fundamental changes in marine culture in the Persian Gulf, and despite new technologies the songs as cultural heritage seem to survive, at least for now. The film mixes cinematographic and aesthetic styles in an attempt to convey a multi-sensorial impression of the songs and contextualise their usage.

Being screened Friday 6 June at 18.45



Title: ***Under the Palace Wall***

Year: 2014

Length: 53 minutes

Director/filmmaker: David MacDougall

Producer/production company: Fieldwork Films

Country of production: Australia

Country/location of film: India

From the 16th century the Indian village of Delwara in southern Rajasthan was ruled as a principality of the kingdom of Mewar. Its palace, which overlooks

the village, is now a luxury hotel –a world remote from the daily life of the villagers. Following on from his film *SchoolScapes*, which was inspired by the early cinema of Lumière, David MacDougall here employs a series of precisely observed scenes to explore Delwara's local primary school as a part of contemporary village life – a life that continues "under the palace wall".

Being screened Friday 6 June at 19.45

Programme edited and compiled by Peter I. Crawford (University of Aarhus, Denmark). Film selection and programming by the NAFA 2014 Film Selection Committee: Orsolya Veraart (Romania/Norway), Petia Mankova (Norway), Tove Holmström (Finland), Tanel Saimre (Estonia/Norway), Knud Fischer-Møller (Denmark), Frode Storås (Norway), and Peter I. Crawford.

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