

2010 World Community Film Festival Descriptions

Addicted to Plastic Sat 4:45 pm Theatre 2

85 min. 2007

Director: Ian Connacher

McNabb/ Connolly

From Styrofoam cups to artificial organs, plastics are perhaps the most ubiquitous and versatile material ever invented. No ecosystem or segment of human activity has escaped the shrink-wrapped grasp of plastic. *Addicted to Plastic* is a global journey to investigate what we really know about the material of a thousand uses and why there's so darn much of it. On the way we discover a toxic legacy, and the men and women dedicated to cleaning it up. We travel to 12 countries on 5 continents, including two trips to the middle of the Pacific Ocean where plastic debris accumulates. The film provides a wealth of expert interviews on practical and cutting edge solutions to recycling, toxicity, and biodegradability.

Apology of an Economic Hitman Sun 3:00 pm Theatre 1

90 min. 2008

Director: Stelios Kouglou

Moxie Films

From 1971 to 1981 John Perkins was a prominent member of the top-secret team of "economic hit men" who used fraudulent financial reports, rigged elections, payoffs, extortion, military coups and murder to create the global American empire. Working as an economist for consulting firm Chas T Main, his job was to structure huge loans to Indonesia, Panama and Saudi Arabia. These loans funded massive construction projects that would funnel the money back to US contractors, at the cost of national self-sufficiency, independence, and endemic poverty for the vast majority of the local population. Economics--not intelligence--is where the real cloak-and-dagger stuff happens.

At the Edge of the World Sat 1:00 pm Theatre 5

90 min. 2009

Director: Dan Stone

Wealth Effect Media

The 3rd Antarctic Campaign undertaken by the controversial Sea Shepherd Conservation Society was arguably "the perfect combination of imperfections" and the actions taken to stop a Japanese whaling fleet were astonishingly reckless and admirable. The under-trained international volunteer crew developed a combination of bizarre and brilliant tactics to stop the whalers. But first they must find them in the vast expanse of the Ross Sea. With one ship (*The Farley Mowat*) too slow to chase down the whaling fleet and their second ship (*The Robert Hunter*) unsuited for Antarctic ice conditions, the situation becomes increasingly desperate in this real-life David versus Goliath adventure. Awards include Environmental Film Audience Award: 2009 Vancouver International Film Festival Haskell Wexler Award for Best Cinematography: Woodstock Film Festival, Best Documentary: Monaco International Film Festival

Be the Media Sat 1:45 pm Theatre 4

22 min. 2009

Filmmakers: Nick Middleton and Chad Schroter-Gillespie

Reel Rising Productions

Be the Media examines the state of Canada's highly concentrated, deregulated and privatized media industry while showcasing the vital role of local independent citizen journalism and media production in the mid Vancouver Island region. Featuring interviews with a diverse cast of inspired citizens, *Be the Media* offers a unique and proactive approach to democratizing the media. Original music by Tongue & Groove and Peter Bowles.

Body & Soul: Diana & Kathy Sun 12:15 pm Theatre 1

40 min. 2007

Director: Alice Elliott

New Day Films

Body & Soul: Diana & Kathy directed by Academy Award nominee Alice Elliott (*The Collector of Bedford Street*), is a rare look at an unusual relationship between two people some would call profoundly disabled. Two remarkable advocates for people with disabilities - Diana Braun who has Down syndrome and Kathy Conour who has cerebral palsy - met three decades ago and vowed to fight to live independent lives. Fearful of being shut away in a nursing home or forced into a state run institution, Diana and Kathy broke the rules, escaped the system, and modeled a grand experiment in independent living. From their experience living outside of institutions for 35 years, they became advocates for choices in housing for people with disabilities.

Bogotá: Building a Sustainable City Sun 1:15 pm Theatre 2

27 min. 2008

Director: Tad Fettig

Green Planet Films

As few as 10 years ago Bogotá, Colombia was characterized by drug cartels, senseless violence and a 30-year civil war. Every three hours someone was kidnapped; every 15 minutes someone was murdered. Today, as you move around the city you'll see mega-libraries, greenways, 1,000 parks, over 70,000 trees and a state-of-the art transportation system called the TransMilenio. People from all walks of life are out of their cars, enjoying their city space- parents strolling with their kids, neighbours meeting and talking with one another. This remarkable transition came out of the vision that

Enrique Peñalosa, mayor of Bogotá from 1997 through 2000, had for his city. Peñalosa believed that cities should encourage walking and biking, which would promote community and make the streets safer for everyone.

Burma VJ **Sat 4:45 pm Theatre 5**

84 min. 2008 Director: Anders Østergaard KinoSmith

Going beyond the occasional news clip from Burma, the acclaimed filmmaker Anders Østergaard brings us close to the video journalists who deliver the footage. Though risking torture and life in jail, courageous young citizens of Burma live the essence of journalism as they insist on keeping up the flow of news from their closed country. Armed with small handycams, the Burma VJs stop at nothing to make their reportages from the streets of Rangoon. Their material is smuggled out of the country and broadcast back into Burma via satellite and offered as free usage for international media. The film offers a unique insight into high-risk journalism and dissidence in a police state, while at the same time providing documentation of the historical and dramatic days of September 2007, when the Buddhist monks started marching. Short Listed for Best Documentary Feature: 2010 Academy Awards, World Cinema Documentary Editing Award: Sundance, Nominee for Best Documentary: European Film Awards.

The Coca Cola Case **Sat 3:00 pm Theatre 1**

86 min. 2009 Directors: German Gutiérrez & Carmen Garcia NFB

In this gripping documentary, directors German Gutiérrez and Carmen Garcia present a searing indictment of the Coca-Cola empire and its alleged kidnapping, torture, and murder of union leaders trying to improve working conditions in Colombia, Guatemala, and Turkey. The filmmakers follow labour rights lawyers Daniel Kovalik and Terry Collingsworth and an activist for the Stop Killer-Coke! campaign, Ray Rogers, as they attempt to hold the giant U.S. multinational beverage company accountable in this legal and human rights battle. *The Coca Cola Case* is an inspiring story of international solidarity and the principled stand taken by courageous union leaders in the Global South.

Fatherhood Dreams **Sat 12:00 pm Theatre 4**

55 min. 2007 Director: Julia Ivanova

Meet four gay men who have always wanted to be dads and discover the challenges they face as they realize their dreams of becoming parents. *Fatherhood Dreams* invites people into the day-to-day lives of gay dads Scott, Steve, Randy, and Drew, who are fathers through adoption, co-parenting, and surrogacy. Their private journey through fatherhood forces them to deal with much larger issues that affect gay fathers in Canada, including the legal aspects of surrogacy, the complexity of "open adoption", and the human rights battles concerning the official recognition of LGBT and multi-parent families. This documentary film also gives the voice to children of gay parents: an outspoken four-year-old named Kizea and a teenager Jazz.

Fierce Light: When Spirit Meets Action **Sat 4:45 pm Theatre 4**

97 min. 2008 Director: Velcrow Ripper NFB

Fierce Light continues the quest for a fusion between spirituality and activism previously explored in Velcrow Ripper's award-winning feature documentary *Scared Sacred*. The 2006 murder of friend and fellow media-activist Brad Will in protest-torn Oaxaca, Mexico is the impetus for Ripper's journey, which takes him to flash points of spiritual activism around the world. He discovers what Paul Hawken (author "Blessed Unrest") describes as the largest global movement in history - thousands of individuals and organizations connected by a shared commitment to compassionate, positive action. Alice Walker calls it "a human sunrise" - Ripper calls it "Fierce Light." With stunning cinematography, a compelling soundtrack, and dramatic stories of resistance and transformation, the film reveals what is possible when human beings, faced with a world in crisis, rise to their absolute best.

Garbage Dreams **Sun 1:15 pm Theatre 1**

79 min. 2009 Director: Mai Iskander Working Films

Filmed over four years, *Garbage Dreams* follows three teenage boys born into the trash trade in the world's largest garbage village, a ghetto on the outskirts of Cairo. For generations, the residents of Cairo have depended on the Zaballeen to collect their trash, paying them only a minimal amount for their services. These workers recycle 80 percent of all the garbage they collect. When the city suddenly decides to replace the Zaballeen with multinational garbage disposal companies, the community finds itself at a crossroads. Faced with the globalization of their trade, each of the teenage boys is forced to make choices that will impact his future and the survival of his community. Short Listed for Best Documentary Feature: 2010 Academy Awards, won Best Cinematography: Rhode Island International Film Festival

Good Food **Sun 12:00 pm Theatre 2**

57 min. 2008 Filmmakers: Mark Dworkin & Melissa Young McNabb/Connolly
Something remarkable is happening in the fields and orchards of the Pacific Northwest. After leaving the land for decades, family farmers are making a comeback. They are growing much healthier food, and more food per acre, while using less energy and water than factory farms. And most of this food is organic. For decades Northwest agriculture was focused on a few big crops for export. But climate change and the end of cheap energy mean that each region needs to produce more of its own food and to grow it more sustainably. *Good Food* visits farmers, farmers' markets, distributors, stores, restaurants, and public officials who are developing a more sustainable food system for all.

Good Morning Kandahar Sun 1:45 pm Theatre 3

51 min. 2008 Director: Ariel Nasr NFB
"My country fights a war in my father's country. And I look on with a growing sense of confusion." So Ariel Nasr begins his powerful documentary, *Good Morning Kandahar*, which gives poignant voice to the dilemmas felt by thousands of young Afghans around the world — many in surprising places — as they grapple with events in their homeland. The film introduces us to young Afghan-Canadians torn between a deep desire to help Afghanistan and fear that things will never change. This moving and rich film brings a profoundly needed personal perspective to a painful controversy. Best Original Music Score: Atlantic Film Festival

H2Oil Sat 3 pm Theatre 2

81 min. 2009 Director: Shannon Walsh Loaded Pictures
In Alberta's pristine boreal forests, the process of oil sands extraction uses up to 4 barrels of fresh water to produce only one barrel of crude oil. *H2Oil* follows a voyage of discovery, heartbreak and politicization in the stories of those attempting to defend water in Alberta against tar sands expansion. Unlikely alliances are built and lives are changed as they come up against the largest industrial project in human history. Ultimately we ask what is more important, oil or water. And what will be our response? With hope and courage *H2Oil* tells the story of one of the most significant, and destructive projects of our time.

"Her Sight Is Worth It" - SEVA Film Contest Winners Sun 12:15 pm Theatre 4

12 min. 2009
Seva Canada invited Canadians age 13 and up to help restore sight and prevent blindness in girls and women by creating short videos about vision and gender. Globally someone goes blind every 5 seconds and a child goes blind every minute. Approximately 314 million people worldwide live with serious vision impairment and 45 million people are blind. Two out of three blind people are women or girls, yet they receive care less than half as often as men and boys. Seva Canada is a global leader on the issue of gender equity and blindness. The World Community Film Festival and our travelling film festival partners are proud to present three winning videos. Each of the three winners will also be honoured by having sight restored to one girl and one woman in their name.

Infinite Vision Sun 12:30 pm Theatre 4

35 min. 2004 Director: Pavi Mehta
Despite crippling obstacles, Dr. Venkataswamy restored the sight of over 100,000 people with his own hands. Thirty years ago, at the age of 58, he started an 11-bed eye clinic in an old temple-city, and with his team, turned Aravind Eye Care System into the largest and most productive eye care facility in the world. Taking its compassionate services to the doorstep of rural India, Aravind's stunningly effective strategies have created a self-sustaining system that now treats over 1.4 million patients each year, two-thirds of them for free. This award-winning documentary tells the inspired story of what made Dr. V's leadership and spiritually grounded vision so compelling.

Justicia Now Sat 12:30 pm Theatre 1

31 min. 2009 Filmmakers: Martin O'Brien & Robbie Proctor Mofilms
Chevron / Texaco left a toxic legacy in the Northern Ecuadorian region of the Amazon rainforest. A courageous group of people called Los Afectados (The Affected Ones) is seeking justice for the ensuing cancer, sickness, and death in the largest environmental class action lawsuit in history. The lawsuit, representing 30,000 people, charges Chevron/ Texaco with damaging the environment and health of the community. The company denies any responsibility and blames the campesinos for their health problems. Activists Daryl Hannah and Stuart Townsend speak out about the issues. Grand Jury Award: Latin American Environmental Media Festival (New Orleans)

Land of Oil and Water Sun 12:00 pm Theatre 2

44 min. 2009 Filmmakers: Warren Cariou and Neil McArthur

Underneath the woods and the muskeg of northern Canada lies roughly two trillion barrels of oil, fifteen percent of the world's known reserves. *Land of Oil and Water* follows the journey of Warren Cariou, a Métis writer from northern Saskatchewan, who learns that the oil companies from Alberta are expanding into his homeland. Cariou talks to people in the area about their hopes and fears about the development. Aboriginal communities who have experienced the development in Alberta continue the struggle to preserve their traditional way of life in the midst of the largest and most destructive oil recovery operation the world has ever known. It's time to count the true cost of development and listen to the Métis and First Nations people who call this place home.

Made in LA Sat 4:45 pm Theatre 1

70 min. 2007 Director: Almudena Carracedo Semilla Verde Productions

Made in L.A. is an Emmy award-winning documentary that follows the remarkable story of three Latina immigrants working in Los Angeles garment sweatshops as they embark on a three-year odyssey to win basic labour protections from trendy clothing retailer Forever 21. In intimate observational style, the film reveals the impact of the struggle on each woman's life as they are gradually transformed by the experience. Compelling, humorous, and deeply human, *Made in L.A.* is a story about immigration, the power of unity, and the courage it takes to find your voice. As seen through the eyes of María, Maura and Lupe, the workers' struggle for basic economic justice and personal dignity yields hope and growth, but it is also fraught with disappointments and dangers. The long campaign becomes a turning point from victimization to empowerment.

March Point Sun 12:15 pm Theatre 4

53 min. 2008 Longhouse Media/ Native Lens

Directors: Annie Silverstein, Tracy Rector, Cody Cayou, Nick Clark, Travis Tom

March Point follows Cody, Nick and Travis, three teens from the Swinomish Indian Tribe who participated in a community justice diversion program. They originally wanted to make a gangster movie but found themselves using video cameras to investigate the impact of two oil refineries on their tribal community. *March Point* follows their journey as they come to understand themselves, the environment and the threat their people face. Over time, the presence of the refineries has negatively affected the health of the water and land and the very fabric of cultural tradition itself. Ambivalent environmental ambassadors at the onset, the boys grapple with their assignment through humour, sarcasm, and a candid self-knowledge. Making the film transforms them in ways they could not have imagined. ImagineNATIVE Film & Media Arts Festival: Best Documentary

Mirage of El Dorado Sat 1:15 pm Theatre 1

85 min. 2008 Director: Martin Frigon Productions Multi-Monde

Mirage of El Dorado leads us into the mountains of northern Chile, where the devastating operations of Canadian mining companies Barrick Gold and Noranda threaten a fragile ecosystem of glacier-fed rivers in one of the driest parts of the globe. The film exposes the hypocrisy of the Canadian government towards its own mining companies that corrupt foreign governments and weaken the process of environmental assessments. With a backdrop of breathtaking images and eloquent testimonials, *Mirage of El Dorado* defies the powers that would have us believe their divine mission is to extract wealth no matter where it lies, purportedly to save local communities from endemic poverty.

Myths for Profit Sat 1:45 pm Theatre 4

60 min. 2009 Director: Amy Miller Wide Open Exposure

This dramatic exposé explores Canada's role in industries of war and peace. Through diverse interviews and case studies, *Myths for Profit* unveils the specific interests and profits that are made by certain corporation, individuals and agencies within Canada. The Canadian government and the military would like us to believe that we are altruistic peacekeepers helping people around the world. But is this accurate? The film examines how these misconceptions are maintained and who stands to gain by perpetuating them. Only by breaking down these myths can we hope to understand how these systems of power operate, and help empower people across Canada to change them.

One Peace at a Time Sat 3:00 pm Theatre 4

84 min. 2009 Director: Turk Pipkin Monterey Media

Turk Pipkin takes us on his journey to find some positive solutions for a "messed up world". How can we provide basic rights to every child? The film features the insights of Nobel laureates Muhammad Yunus, Desmond Tutu, Stephen Chu and many others who offer their insights into what is required for a more equitable world. Sprinkled with music from Bob Dylan, Ben Harper, Jack Johnson and Willie Nelson, *One Peace at a Time* lyrically weaves a tapestry through 20 countries and is as magical as it is informative. Audience Award at the Maui Film Festival

Pray the Devil Back to Hell **Sun 3:00 pm Theatre 4**

72 min. 2008 Filmmakers: Abigail E. Disney & Gini Reticker Fork Films

Pray the Devil Back to Hell chronicles the remarkable story of the courageous Liberian women who came together to end a bloody civil war and bring peace to their shattered country. Thousands of ordinary women, both Christian and Muslim, came together to pray for peace and then staged a silent protest outside the presidential palace. Armed only with white T-shirts and the courage of their convictions, they took on the warlords and non-violently forced a resolution to the stalled peace talks. This is the inspiring story of how grassroots activism can alter the history of nations. Awards include Best Documentary; Tribeca Film Festival

Rebecca's Wild Farm **Sun 1:45 pm Theatre 2**

49 min. 2009 Director: Rebecca Hosking McNabb/Connolly

Wildlife camerawoman Rebecca Hosking returns to her childhood home in Devon, England to take on the family farm. The Hosking farm is not a normal farm - it is a haven of biodiversity, with majestic oak trees, water meadows and hayfields heaving with wild flowers. We follow Rebecca as she investigates different ways to run a productive farm without using fossil fuels, and in doing so this beautifully filmed documentary reveals a fascinating glimpse into positive alternatives like permaculture for the future of farming.

RiP: A Remix Manifesto **Sun 3:00 pm Theatre 5**

87 min. 2008 Director: Brett Gaylor NFB

Web activist and filmmaker Brett Gaylor explores issues of copyright in the information age, mashing up the media landscape of the 20th century and shattering the wall between users and producers. The film's central protagonist is Girl Talk, a mash-up musician topping the charts with his sample-based songs. But is Girl Talk a paragon of people power or the Pied Piper of piracy? Creative Commons founder Lawrence Lessig, Brazil's Minister of Culture Gilberto Gil, and pop culture critic Cory Doctorow are also along for the ride. A participatory media experiment, from day one, Brett shares his raw footage at opensourcecinema.org, for anyone to remix. This movie-as-mash-up method allows these remixes to become an integral part of the film. With *RiP: A Remix Manifesto*, Gaylor and Girl Talk sound an urgent alarm and draw the lines of battle.

Roadsworth: Crossing the Line **Sat 3:00 pm Theatre 3**

72 min. 2009 Director: Alan Kohl NFB

Roadsworth: Crossing the Line details a Montreal stencil artist's clandestine campaign to make his mark on the city streets. Hailed as an "artist's artist" by Wooster Collective, Roadsworth began to play with the language of the streets, overlaying city asphalt markings with his own images: a crosswalk becomes a giant boot print, vines choked up traffic dividers, and electrical plugs filled parking spots. Each piece begged the question: who owns public space? As he is prosecuted at home and celebrated abroad, Roadsworth struggles to defend his work, define himself as an artist and address difficult questions about art and freedom of expression. Music by Mitchell Akiyama, Miracle Fortress, and Broken Social Scene.

Seeking Refuge **Sat 4:45 pm Theatre 3**

70 min. 2009 Director: Karen Cho InformAction

Five asylum seekers set out on the lengthy journey to be accepted as refugees in Canada. Plunging into the experiences, hopes, and struggles of asylum seekers looking for protection, *Seeking Refuge* follows newly-arrived claimants awaiting their hearings and captures the lives of those who have been denied asylum and are facing deportation. From border crossings to refugee shelters, a moving look at the lives of people who navigate Canada's complex refugee determination system after escaping war, persecution, rape, and political unrest. In a situation where the decision to grant or deny asylum could mean life or death for the refugee, *Seeking Refuge* offers a provocative look at both the refugee system and those whose lives lie in the balance.

Smile Pinki **Sat 12:15 pm Theatre 3**

39 min. 2008 Director: Megan Mylan

Pinki Kumari is an eight-year-old girl who is living with a severe cleft lip in one of the poorest areas of India. Ostracized and not allowed to attend school at her village of Rampur Dahaba in Mirzapur near Varanasi, Pinki lives a life of quiet desperation because of her cleft. Her parents could never afford the surgery that she desperately needs. By chance, Pinki's parents meet a social worker one day who is travelling from village to village, gathering patients for a hospital that provides free cleft lip surgery to thousands of poor children each year. This is an uplifting and unforgettable film. Best Short Documentary: 2008 Academy Award

Soldiers of Conscience Sun 12:00 pm Theatre 3

54 min. 2007

Directors: Catherine Ryan and Gary Weimberg

McNabb/ Connolly

From West Point grads to drill sergeants, from Abu Ghraib interrogators to low ranking reservist-mechanics, soldiers in the U.S. Army today reveal their deepest moral concerns about killing in war. Their message: every soldier wrestles with his or her conscience over killing. Although most decide to kill, some refuse. *Soldiers of Conscience* reveals that far more soldiers decide not to kill than we might expect. Made with official permission from the U.S. Army, *Soldiers of Conscience* includes never-before-seen footage of basic training and the war in Iraq, with an original soundtrack from an Academy Award winner and composer. It is a realistic look at war, peace, and the power of the human conscience. Best Documentary: 2007 Salem Film Festival

Sweet Crude Fri 7:30 pm Theatre 5

93 min. (2009)

Director: Sandy Cioffi

In a small corner of the most populous country in Africa, billions of dollars of crude oil flow under the feet of a desperate people. Immense wealth and abject poverty stand in stark contrast. The environment is decimated. The issues are complex, the answers elusive, but in this moment there's an opportunity to find solutions. What if the world paid attention before it was too late? *Sweet Crude* is the highly acclaimed film about the human and environmental consequences of 50 years of oil extraction in the Niger Delta, the history of non-violent protest, and the members of a new insurgency, the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) who are demanding an end to the environmental degradation (equivalent to 50 Exxon Valdez spills) and a share of the \$700 billion oil profits. The Nigerian government policy of execution and intimidation extended even to Cioffi and her crew, who were arrested and detained, their film footage seized. This superbly crafted film confronts issues of human rights, resource control, environmental justice and mainstream media agendas. Awards include: Special Jury Award - DMZ Docs Korean Documentary Film Festival Best Documentary - Strasbourg International Film Festival

Tapped Sat 3:00 pm Theatre 5

76 min. 2009

Director: Stephanie Soechtig

Atlas Films

Is access to clean drinking water a basic human right, or a commodity to be bought and sold? *Tapped* is an unflinching examination of the big business of bottled water. From the producers of *Who Killed the Electric Car*, this timely documentary is a behind-the-scenes look into the unregulated and unseen world of an industry that aims to privatize and sell our water back to us. From the plastic production to the ocean in which so many of these bottles end up, we follow the path of the bottled water industry and the communities which were the unwitting chips on the table. This is a powerful and inspiring portrait of ordinary people who become activists in order to protect their rights to water.

Followed by a panel discussion of water issues in Canada.

Telling Strings Sun 3:00 pm Theatre 3

60 min. 2007

Director: Anne-Marie Haller

Swiss Film

Enter the world of the Jubran family, all lovers of music, and enjoy amazing performance. The father, Elias, an instrument maker; his elder son, Khaled, heads a music school; his daughter, Kamilya, a professional singer; his younger son, Rabea, whose passion is the *bouzouq*. The mother, Nuhad, worships at the Orthodox Church and aspired to be a singer. Their family home, where the parents still live, is in the Palestinian village of al-Rameh, the Galilee -- north Israel. *Telling Strings* examines the unique beauty of the oud and the enduring strength of Palestinian musical heritage. What is necessary so that a culture – suppressed by the Israeli state – may continue to develop? **Canada Palestine Support Network will host an after-film discussion featuring a Palestinian filmmaker and a musician.**

Under Rich Earth Sat 7:30 pm Theatre 5

91 min. (2008)

Director: Malcolm Rogge

Under Rich Earth is a story about ordinary people with extraordinary courage. In a remote mountain valley in Ecuador, coffee and sugarcane farmers face the dismal prospect of being forced off their land to make way for a Canadian mining project. The issue creates division between those hoping the project will create jobs and those who feel it will destroy the land. Unprotected by the police and ignored by their government, local activists prepare to face down the invaders on their own. Their resistance ultimately leads to a remarkable and dangerous stand off between farmers and a band of armed paramilitaries deep in the cloud forest. The role of the video camera cannot be underestimated in the outcome. *Under Rich Earth* offers a surprising and poignant tale of hope and determination.

Audience Choice - One of Top Ten Canadian Films at Vancouver International Film Festival

Water Detectives **Sat 12:15 pm Theatre 1**

11 min. 2007 Director: David Springbett NFB

In Matamoros, Mexico, a severe water shortage led the city to take the unusual step of putting local children in charge of changing adult attitudes and habits. Thousands of schoolchildren were enlisted as "water detectives" - educated in concepts of water conservation, and encouraged to discuss the importance of proper water usage with adults. Kids were authorized to give "tickets" to transgressors who were seen to be wasting water, and the municipality followed up by fixing leaks and visiting homes. The result? Matamoros lowered its water consumption by nearly 20 percent in just one year! This inspiring film features lively narration from three of the water detectives: Mariana, Carlos, and Raoul.

Waterlife **Sun 3:00 pm Theatre 2**

109 min 2009 Director: Kevin McMahon NFB

Waterlife follows the epic cascade of the Great Lakes from Lake Superior to the Atlantic Ocean, telling the story of the last huge supply of fresh water on Earth. Filled with fascinating characters and stunning imagery, *Waterlife* is a cinematic poem about the beauty of water and the dangers of taking it for granted. Narrated by Gord Downie, lead vocalist of The Tragically Hip and Waterkeeper's Trustee of Lake Ontario. Featuring music by Sam Roberts, Sufjan Stevens, Sigur Ros, Robbie Robertson, and Brian Eno.

Where the Water Meets the Sky **Sun 1:15 pm Theatre 4**

60 min. 2008 Director: David Eberts Camfed

Written by Jordan Roberts and narrated by Morgan Freeman, *Where the Water Meets the Sky* tells the inspiring story of a group of women in a remote region of Northern Zambia who achieve the unimaginable: they learn how to make a film as a way to speak out about their lives, raising an issue that no one will discuss – the plight of young women orphaned by AIDS. In a community where women are rarely given the chance to speak up, the inspiring voices at the core of this moving documentary ring loud and clear. What begins as a workshop in filmmaking becomes a journey in empowerment as the women rise to the challenge of pressing their community to change.