



REHOBOTH BEACH  
**FILM SOCIETY**



Jan - March, 2010 issue

## ***WHAT MAKES US TICK?***

“What Makes Us Tick?” is a film and discussion series that explores the mysteries of human behavior. The 2010 series will focus on personal change.

How do you react when confronted with values, lifestyles, and viewpoints that differ from your own? Are your personal biases triggered? Do you yield to a fear of the unknown and societal prejudices, thus rejecting any possibility of changing your views? Or do you explore these differences, and embrace the potential for change? This year’s series consists of three films featuring characters who face life-changing situations. Each story shows the introduction of new ideas to the characters, their responses, and ultimately, the personal transformations each experience. All screenings will conclude with an audience discussion about growth and change led by a local mental health practitioner.

**Event location:** Swan Ballroom, Atlantic Sands Hotel on the Rehoboth Beach Boardwalk. Call 645-9095, ext 1 to order non-refundable tickets which include film, discussion and complimentary beverages and sweets prior to each screening.

**Admission:** \$16 per session for RBFS members      \$18 per session for non-members

### ***Flawless***

**7:00 PM, Friday, Jan 15**

**Moderator:** Eric Kafka  
**Discussion Leader:** Kathryn Harris

Robert De Niro stars in this film as conservative, homophobic security guard Walt Koontz, who suffers a debilitating stroke during a robbery. To gain recovery of his paralyzed larynx, Walt is ordered to take therapeutic singing lessons. Luckily his neighbor, Rusty Zimmerman (Philip Seymour Hoffman), can provide the singing lessons. But, Rusty happens to be a drag queen who despises bigoted straight people. Despite their opposing outlooks on life, the two share more than a few similarities, and soon they find common ground. [1999, Runtime: 112 min., Rated: R]

### ***Elegy***

**2:00 PM, Saturday, Jan 16**

**Moderator:** Eric Kafka  
**Discussion Leader:** Roy Fitzgerald

This film, based on the Philip Roth novel *The Dying Animal*, features a stellar cast including Ben Kingsley, Penelope Cruz, Patricia Clarkson and Dennis Hopper. *Elegy* charts the passionate relationship between a celebrated college professor (Kingsley) and a young woman (Cruz) whose beauty both ravishes and destabilizes him. As their intimate connection transforms them more than either could imagine, a charged sexual contest evolves into an indelible love story. With humanistic warmth, wry wit and erotic intensity, this film explores the power of beauty to blind, to reveal, and to transform. [2008, Runtime: 112 min., Rated: R]

### ***The King of Masks***

**2:00 PM, Sunday, Jan 17**

**Moderator:** Eric Kafka  
**Discussion Leader:** Perrin Smith

On the streets of Szechuan Province in the 1930s, the aged Wang is the King of Masks, a renowned street performer and wizard of the venerable art of mask magic. He longs to pass on his technique, but custom stipulates he can only hand down his craft to a male successor, and Wang has no children. Anxious to preserve his unique art, Wang buys an impoverished 8-year-old orphan on the black market. Wang joyously accepts the child as his grandson and heir, and begins to instruct the child in his craft. But when the child is forced to disclose a dreaded secret, Wang faces a choice between filial love and societal tradition. [1996, Runtime: 91 min., Not rated, subtitled]

(continued on next page →)

**What Makes Us Tick? (continued)****About the Moderator and Discussion Leaders:**

**Eric Kafka:** Eric has been a psychologist for nearly 40 years. He has worked for Community Mental Health and in nursing homes and senior communities in Maryland. Upon moving to Delaware, Eric worked for the Lewes Convalescent Center and currently continues his private practice in Lewes, DE.

**Kathryn Harris:** Kathryn has been a licensed clinical social worker in the Delaware area for 35 years specializing in issues related to personal transition, women's experience, trauma and post-traumatic stress. She performed Critical Incident Stress Debriefings following 9/11 and participated in a mental health/disaster relief team in Sri Lanka following the tsunami of 2004.

**Roy G. Fitzgerald, MD:** Roy is a psychiatrist and chainsaw artist who has recently retired to Lewes, DE. He has published research in many fields including aging, blindness, and bipolar disorder. In addition, he has moderated film program discussions for the annual conventions of the American Psychiatric Association.

**Perrin Smith:** Perrin is a licensed clinical social worker with a private practice in Lewes. She has been a child/family therapist for 32 years.

**CINEMA CABARET (A Dinner & Film Series)**

Co-sponsored with Rehoboth Theater of the Arts and OVATIONS restaurant

Tickets: \$30 includes 3-course meal, coffee or soda, and film. Alcohol and gratuity not included. Purchase your tickets by calling the Film Society office at 302-645-9095, ext. 1.

Location: OVATIONS is on the lower level of 20 Baltimore Avenue, Rehoboth Beach. A parking lot is available across the street.

***Like Water for Chocolate*****Friday, March 5 (must be seated by 6:30 PM)**

This magical romance set during the Mexican Revolution focuses on the youngest of three sisters, Tita. When Tita's admirer Pedro asks for her hand in marriage, Tita's stern mother forbids it on the grounds of a cruel family tradition: the youngest daughter must never marry and remain at home to care for her mother until death. Pedro instead marries Tita's sister, insisting he did so to stay close to Tita. Finding solace in her talent for cooking, she magically whisks her sorrows, passions, and longings into her tantalizing feasts. But something strange happens: all who partake of her meals experience her feelings as she does! Tita's culinary abilities could give her the power to win back her true love and to free herself from the controlling mother who denied her happiness, but at what price?

[1992, Runtime: 105 min., Rated: R]



## DELMARVA ROOTS

The Rehoboth Beach Film Society and the Milton Historical Society co-present this winter film series which features films about the history of the Delmarva region. Each event will be held at the Milton Theater, located at 110 Union Street, Milton Delaware.

Tickets: \$4 per film, can be purchased at RBFS (645-9095, ext 1) or MHS (684-1010)

### **Beer Wars**

**7:00 PM, Friday, Jan 29**

*Beer Wars* is a documentary that takes a no-holds-barred exploration of the U.S. beer industry that ultimately reveals the truth behind the labels of the top selling beers. Told from an insider's perspective, the film goes behind the scenes of the daily battles and all out wars that dominate one of America's favorite industries.

*Beer Wars* begins as the corporate behemoths are being challenged by small, independent brewers who are shunning the status quo and creating innovative new beers. The story features two independent brewery entrepreneurs, Sam Calagione of Dogfish Head Craft Brewery located in Milton, Delaware, and Rhonda Kallman of New Century Brewing Co. located in Boston, Massachusetts, who are battling the might and tactics of Corporate America. The film follows their struggle to achieve their "American Dream" in an industry dominated by powerful corporations unwilling to cede an inch. [2009, Runtime: 89 min, Not rated]

After the screening, Mark Carter from Dogfish Head Craft Brewery will conduct a brief discussion about the Brewery's impact on the local community.



### **Estamos Aqui**

**7:00 PM, Friday, Feb 19**

The story of one community in a changing nation, *Estamos Aqui* explores the evolving social, political, and economic landscape of Georgetown, Delaware. As the United States experiences the largest immigration wave in its history, this rural farming community becomes home to thousands of predominantly Guatemalan immigrants, fleeing from war and poverty in their homeland. Their struggles for safety and employment shed light on the challenges facing millions of Latin Americans who have come to the United States in search of the "American Dream". While lawmakers argue over immigration reform and Minutemen patrol the Mexican border, millions of documented and undocumented immigrants alike are raising their voices to convey one undeniable truth: *Estamos Aqui!* [2006, runtime: 90 minutes, not rated]

Following the encore presentation of this film, Margaret Reyes, the Social Justice Chairperson of the Governor's Advisory Council on Hispanic Affairs, will lead a panel discussion about immigration in this region and the nation as a whole.

### **Tindeworks and Hands of Harvest**

**7:00 PM, Friday, March 19**

*Tindeworks*, a short film by local filmmaker Gabrielle Nadig, is about eight-year-old Ruth, who is struggling to find her place after moving to lower Delaware in 1934. When she finds her father's ceremonial Native Ameri-

can regalia, she finally starts to feel the happiness she left behind in Philadelphia. Her joy comes to a crashing end when she is accosted by three boys outside the local general store. Ashamed of her Native American heritage, Ruth must learn to understand the importance and beauty of her culture in a world that does not accept it. [2009, Runtime: 11 min, Not rated]



*Hands of Harvest* is a documentary film that offers a glimpse into a renowned American Industry being kept afloat

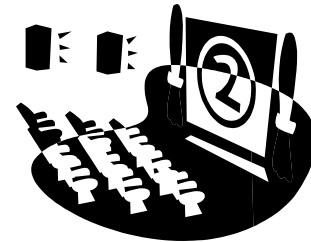
by foreign labor. Due to the unwillingness of the younger generation of local women to pick crabs for a living, picking houses on Maryland's Eastern Shore have relied on Mexican women on seasonal H2-B visas to process the Atlantic blue crab. Blue crabs are a crucial economic resource, and local watermen are struggling to keep their livelihood and culture intact in the face of imminent demise. In addition to documenting this struggle, the film also documents the lives of the Mexican women who, in an effort to provide for their families, are unwitting allies in maintaining this industry. The intertwining of these two narratives explores the complexities of local politics, immigration, and shifting cultural tides. [2009, Runtime: 56 min, Not rated]

*Hands of Harvest* filmmaker Adrian Muys will conduct a Q&A after the sneak preview of this screening.

## MONTHLY SCREENINGS

(Films start at 7:00PM in upstairs screening room,  
Movies at Midway )

Admission: \$2 RBFS member  
\$4 general public



### ***Sugar***

**7:00 PM, Fri, Jan 22**

*Sugar* follows the story of Miguel Santos, a.k.a. Sugar, a Dominican



pitcher from San Pedro De Macoris, struggling to make it to the big leagues and pull himself and his family out of poverty. Playing professionally at a baseball academy in the Dominican Republic, Miguel finally gets his break at age 19 when he advances to the United States' minor league system. This trip to a foreign land is Miguel's first time away from home. His host family treats him like part of the family, and one of his teammates, a fellow Dominican, tries to help Miguel adjust to life in America. Despite these welcoming efforts, the challenge of Miguel's acceptance into the community is exposed in small ways, from his struggle to communicate to an incident of casual bigotry at a local bar. When his skills on the mound falter, he begins to question the single-mindedness of his life's ambition.

[2008, Runtime: 120 min, Rated R]

Following the screening, Dr. David Johnson of Salisbury University will

lead a discussion about Anna Boden and Ryan Fleck, the writing/directing team behind *Sugar* and *Half-Nelson*. Dr. Johnson teaches courses in film at Salisbury University.

### ***American Violet***

**7:00 PM, Fri, Feb 26**

Based on true events that took place during the 2000 presidential election, *American Violet* tells the astonishing story of Dee Roberts, a 24-year-old African American single mother of four living in a small Texas town, barely making ends meet on a waitress' salary and government subsidies. During a sweeping drug bust conducted in Dee's housing project, Dee is arrested and charged as a drug dealer on the word of a dubious police informant facing drug charges of his own. Although Dee has no prior drug record and no drugs were found in her house during the raid, she is offered a hellish choice: plead guilty and go home as a convicted felon, or remain in prison and fight the charges, which would jeopardize her custody of her kids and risk a long prison sentence. She chooses to fight the district attorney and the criminal justice system he represents in a battle that changes not only her life, but the Texas justice system. [2009, Runtime: 103 min, Rated PG-13]

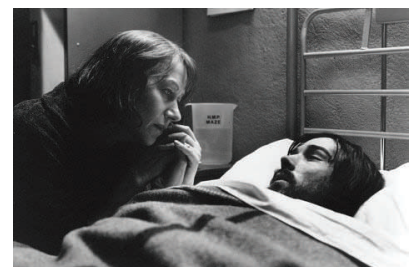
Local attorney Edward C. Gill will lead a post-screening discussion about this case and the American justice system. Edward C. Gill, P. A. has been practicing law for over 30 years. He specializes in criminal defense.

### ***Some Mother's Son***

**7:00 PM, Fri, Mar 26**

Terry George, the co-writer of *In the Name of the Father*, wrote and directed this 1996 drama based on actual events from 1981, when Irish Republican Army prisoners in Belfast's Maze Prison staged a hunger strike to protest against British political policies. This fictionalized account focuses on two of the strikers' mothers, portraying the "Troubles" of Northern Ireland on a purely personal level. While Annie (Fionnula Flanagan) understands her son's political motivations and supports his readiness to die, Kathleen (Helen Mirren) is a pacifist who cannot comprehend how any mother could sacrifice her own son to a political principle. The women become friends despite their opposing views, and desperately hope for a compromise in Irish-British negotiations while the hunger strikers continue to wither away. [1996, Runtime: 112 min, Rated: R]

Following the screening, Film Society Board of Directors member Sharon Miken will lead a discussion about this, and other Irish films. Sharon is retired from teaching film studies to high schoolers, and spent a summer in Dublin studying Irish film as a part of New York University's Tisch program.



## AROUND THE WORLD

(Presented in partnership with Lewes Library and Movies at Midway)

**Time:** Films begin at 7:00 PM.

**Admission:** Free

**Location:** upstairs screening room, Movies at Midway

### ***The Window***

**7:00 PM, Wed, Jan 6**

*The Window* focuses on 80-year-old Antonio on a very significant day. After an absence of many years, his estranged son is coming to visit. Antonio plans for the perfect event; there will be a toast with very special champagne, an embrace, and warm words that may finally bridge the gap between them. Antonio must wait. While waiting for this event, he is confined to his room by illness and old age. He looks out his window at the Patagonian landscape and sees light and life, the past and the present, while sensing the future. He decides to secretly leave the house, unseen by his faithful caretakers, to take what might be a last walk in his fields, breathing the air, treading the earth, inhaling the scent of the land that had been his life. What could otherwise seem like insignificant memories or moments in one's life, take a special, beautiful meaning and weight in this poetic, humanistic film. [2008, Runtime: 85 min, Not rated, with subtitles]

### ***The Drummer***

**7:00 PM, Wed, Feb 3**



Sid is the rebellious son of Kwan, a controlling and savage mob boss in Hong Kong. Upon enraging his father's adversary, a powerful tycoon and underground business leader, Sid is forced to flee to Taiwan. Hiding out in the mountains, he encounters a group of Zen drummers whose mesmerizing art, rigorous physical training, and austere way of life pique this hostile urban young man's interest and he requests to join the group. Although Sid despises his father, he is also a younger version of him: wild and defiant. By immersing himself in the world of the Zen drummers, he converts into a firm and focused young man. Sid's independence from the gangster life and his father is profoundly challenged, when a twist of

fate back in Hong Kong forces him to choose between loyalty to his family and his new found faith in himself. [2008, Runtime: 118 min, Not rated, with subtitles]

### ***Troubled Water***

**7:00 PM, Wed, Mar 3**

Jan, recently released from prison after serving time for the murder of a child, has always maintained his innocence and is ready to put the past behind him. A gifted organist, he takes a job at an Oslo church under his middle name, Thomas. His talent and gentle manner quickly earn him the respect of his superiors, as well as the love of the pastor, Anna. Thomas even overcomes his initial panic to return the affection of Anna's young son, Jens. But his past catches up with him when Agnes, a local teacher, comes to the church on a school visit and recognizes the organist as Jan, the young man who was convicted for the murder of her son. [2008, Runtime: 115 min, Not rated, with subtitles]

**ART HOUSE**  
THEATER

The Art House Theater will no longer be operational at the Movies at Midway. From a business perspective, the Movies at Midway management decided to not renew the contract. The Film Society is very appreciative to Richard Derrickson for providing the Society the opportunity to develop a year-round audience of independent film enthusiasts over a four-year period. The Film Society will continue to host film events at the Movies at Midway, which currently include the Film Festival, monthly screenings, and Around the World series.

A committee is working to find an alternative venue to resume Art House Theater operations. Suggestions are welcome and can be sent to [info@rehobothfilm.com](mailto:info@rehobothfilm.com).

Thank you to all those who supported the Art House Theater for the past four years. The RBFS is committed to developing a Society-based venue to present independent films on a year-round basis. Stay tuned.

## ANOTHER TAKE

(co-presented with CAMP Rehoboth)

**Dates:** February 11 - 13

**Location:** CAMP Community Room, 37 Baltimore Ave, Rehoboth Beach

**Tickets:** \$7 (non-refundable) can be purchased by calling RBFS at 302-645-9095, ext 1

### ***Night Fliers***

**7:00 PM, Thursday, Feb 11**

When 12-year-old Jesse Hawthorne's father moves the family to a rural town, Jesse is almost immediately bullied by the local girls. These mini-mean girls seem to find Jesse's tomboy nature both repellent and yet somehow attractive. Her only ally is her neighbor, Jacob, but he has problems of his own including an aggressive, paint-huffing brother. Together, they bond with the local super-nerds, and, as puberty begins to hit their circle, everyone soon has a crush on each other, regardless of gender. Soon, Jesse and her outsider gang discover punk rock and start sneaking out to concerts. Through the power of true friendships, they embrace who they are and rise above the closed minds of their community. [2009, Runtime: 78 min., Not rated]



### ***Pop Star on Ice***

**7:00 PM, Friday, Feb 12**

*Pop Star On Ice* is an unprecedented behind-the-scenes portrait of outspoken Olympian and three-time U.S. Figure Skating National Champion Johnny Weir. When Johnny fails to win a medal at the 2006 Winter Olympics, the media turns on him and he feels the backlash. Love him or hate him, Johnny is one of the most talented skaters of all time, but talent alone does not make a champion.

Johnny's complicated relationship with his longtime coach, Priscilla Hill, and his struggle to reach the top of the sport starts in a small town in Delaware, his training home, to competitions, shopping sprees, fashion shows and personal appearances around the world. Johnny seeks to balance his larger-than-life persona with the constraints of his sport. *Pop Star On Ice* uncovers the graceful, athletic, cut-throat and melodramatic sport of figure skating through the prism of its most controversial athlete as he tries to fulfill his potential on the world stage. [2009, Runtime: 85 min., Not rated]

### ***Hollywood, je t'aime***

**7:00 PM, Saturday, Feb 13**

Biting Hollywood satire meets a melancholy search for love and acceptance in this sweet and surprising fish-out-of-water film. The story begins in wintry Paris, where Jerome is down in the dumps because his ex-boyfriend has moved on with a new hunk. Seeking an escape from reality, he heads to the City of Angels. As Jerome strives to forget his love back home, he searches for new experiences and connections on the strange, colorful streets of Los Angeles. Naturally, the temptation to find fame and fortune becomes irresistible, and Jerome enlists the help of a West Hollywood stoner (Chad Allen) to obtain auditions for music videos and commercials. Full of humor and appreciation for showbiz absurdity, this entertaining film is enough to charm anyone out of the winter blues, whether in Paris or Rehoboth! [2009, Runtime: 95 min., Not rated]



The Film Society could not accomplish what we do throughout the year without the assistance of many volunteers who share their expertise, time, and funny stories. We would like to take the time to say *thank-you* to :

- ▶ **Robin Mockenhaupt** and **Carol Bresler** for making donations through their employers' matching contribution programs.
- ▶ **Soap Fairy, State of Delaware, The Wave, WXPB-FM, Public Radio Delmarva, Tanger Outlets, DelDot, Comcast Spotlight, Cape Gazette, AmericInn, Lewes Chamber of Commerce, Delaware National Bank,** and the **Rehoboth Beach-Dewey Beach Chamber of Commerce** for donating gifts for the Festival's guest from Japan.
- ▶ **Anne Kirby** and **Marti Marino** for loaning their wagons for recycling work during the Festival
- ▶ **Coastal Cakes By Karen** and the **Cakesmith** for donating delicious cakes to the Film Festival.

# DATES TO REMEMBER



Wed	Jan 6	(7:00 PM)	Around the World: <i>The Window</i> (upstairs, Movies at Midway)
Fri	Jan 15	(7:00 PM)	What Makes Us Tick?: <i>Flawless</i> (Swan Ballroom, Atlantic Sands)
Sat	Jan 16	(2:00 PM)	What Makes Us Tick?: <i>Elegy</i> (Swan Ballroom, Atlantic Sands)
Sun	Jan 17	(2:00 PM)	What Makes Us Tick?: <i>The King of Masks</i> (Swan Ballroom, Atlantic Sands)
Fri	Jan 22	(7:00 PM)	Monthly Screening: <i>Sugar</i> (upstairs, Movies at Midway)
Fri	Jan 29	(7:00 PM)	Delmarva Roots: <i>Beer Wars</i> (Milton Theater)
Wed	Feb 3	(7:00 PM)	Around the World: <i>The Drummer</i> (upstairs, Movies at Midway)
Thur	Feb 11	(7:00 PM)	Another Take: <i>Night Fliers</i> (CAMP Community Room)
Fri	Feb 12	(7:00 PM)	Another Take: <i>Pop Star On Ice</i> (CAMP Community Room)
Sat	Feb 13	(7:00 PM)	Another Take: <i>Hollywood, je t'aime</i> (CAMP Community Room)
Fri	Feb 19	(7:00 PM)	Delmarva Roots: <i>Estamos Aqui</i> (Milton Theater)
Fri	Feb 26	(7:00 PM)	Monthly Screening: <i>American Violet</i> (upstairs, Movies at Midway)
Wed	Mar 3	(7:00 PM)	Around the World: <i>Troubled Water</i> (upstairs, Movies at Midway)
Fri	Mar 5	(6:30 PM)	Cinema Cabaret: <i>Like Water for Chocolate</i> (OVATIONS Restaurant)
Fri	Mar 19	(7:00 PM)	Delmarva Roots: <i>Hands of Harvest</i> (Milton Theater)
Fri	Mar 26	(7:00 PM)	Monthly Screening: <i>Some Mother's Son</i> (upstairs, Movies at Midway)

## FILM FESTIVAL WRAP-UP:

Thank you sponsors, members, volunteers, contributors, and film enthusiasts who supported this year's memorable festival. Bravo to everyone who weathered the storm to see a great selection of films.

A special thanks to those who cooperated with the reserved seating policy and theater exiting procedures. Audience feedback indicated it may be appropriate to review member benefits and Festival management practices. As part of the continuing process of improving Festival operations with the goal of "enjoying films", we will be asking for problem-solving assistance from members during the first quarter of 2010. Thank you in advance for your help.

Audience Award winners include:

Best Debut Feature: *Skin*  
Best Short: *Toyland*

Best Feature: *Departures*  
Best Documentary: *Out in the Silence*

**Mark your calendar for 2010 ► November 10 – 14!**

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

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REHOBOTH BEACH, DE

PERMIT NO. 9

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*The mission of the Rehoboth Beach Film Society is to promote film as an art form through community outreach and educational film initiatives for all ages.*

*RBFS programs are made possible, in part, by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency committed to promoting and supporting the arts in Delaware.*



## **THIS AND THAT.....**

### **► RBFS WISH LIST**

◆ shelf storage racks

◆ flat screen tv for screening films

As a 501(c)(3) organization, donations to the Rehoboth Beach Film Society are tax deductible.

Pick-up can be arranged by calling 645-9095.

**► FILM LIBRARY HOURS: Monday and Friday, 10:00AM - 3:00PM**

**► NOVEMBER 10 - 14, 2010: Rehoboth Beach Independent Film Festival**

### **FILM SOCIETY OFFICE HOURS:**

The Film Society Office is open 9:00 am - 5:00 PM., Monday - Friday. Please call prior to your planned visit to make sure we are not attending meetings or running business errands. Please always park in the driveway and remember to allow room for others. Thank you.