FRIDAY

THE YEAR WE THOUGHT ABOUT LOVE

5PM  $9/$7 At Hotel Coolidge
Documentary USA 68 Minutes Unrated (Family Friendly)
With wit, grace, and attitude, a diverse troupe of LGBTQ youth transforms their personal struggles into theater for social change—starting with a simple and surprising kiss in the first act. The Year We Thought About Love is a documentary that celebrates the powerful work of a Boston LGBTQ troupe, True Colors: OUT Youth Theater, as they write a play about love.

Panel discussion with Director Ellen Brodsky, Producer Pam Chamberlain, and two teens from the film immediately following the screening.

OPENING NIGHT GALA / RECEPTION / WRENCHED

7PM Reception / 8:15PM Film  $35  At Hotel Coolidge
Documentary USA 93 Minutes Unrated
The party begins at 7:00 with a cash bar and hors d’oeuvres followed by the screening of Wrenched, director ML Lincoln’s new documentary. The film chronicles author Edward Abbey’s (The Monkey Wrench Gang, Desert Solitaire) legacy of environmental civil disobedience to stop the destruction caused by “the industrialization of the West”—clear cutting, strip mining, coal burning power plants, and an over-abundance of recreation. Also featured are interviews with actor, director and activist Robert Redford, naturalist and author Doug Peacock, Earth First co-founder Dave Foreman, climate activist Tim DeChristopher, and marine conservationist Paul Watson.

Meet authors and environmental activists Terry Tempest Williams and her husband Brooke Williams, who will be at the Gala to discuss the film and their work for social change.

SATURDAY

BREAKFAST WITH CURTIS

8:15AM  Suggested Donation: $5
At Hotel Coolidge
Comedy/Drama USA 82 Minutes Unrated
When introverted, teenage Curtis gets mixed up with the freewheeling bohemians next door, the chill between their neighboring houses begins to thaw, healing old wounds, revealing repressed secrets, and igniting new possibilities.

Q&A with director Laura Colella, Founding Faculty Chair of the Film Program at Vermont College of Fine Arts, immediately following the film.

COMPUTER CHESS

10AM  $9/7 At Hotel Coolidge
Comedy, Mockumentary USA 91 Minutes Unrated
This hilarious satire about the world of chess and early computer geeks was shot in black and white using early analog video cameras and mostly non-professional actors. It plays as a documentary, but for the occasional surreal, dream-like imagery. In Computer Chess, we meet some of the eccentric geniuses who are trying to teach a metal box to defeat man at his own game, laying the groundwork for artificial intelligence. The Village Voice calls it “the funniest, headiest, most playfully eccentric American indie of the year.”

ZERO MOTIVATION

11:45AM  $9/7 At Hotel Coolidge
Drama Israel 97 Minutes Unrated
Described as “Private Benjamin meets M*A*S*H,” Zero Motivation is a dark, humorous portrait of everyday life for a unit of young, female, Israeli soldiers. Stuck at a remote desert outpost, these zany troopers bide their time pushing paper, wielding staple guns like automatic weaponry, and playing computer games, all while counting down the minutes until they can return to civilian life. If there is a war going on, it’s one against boredom, bad uniforms, silly rules, and doing everything in triplicate. This debut feature for Talya Lavie reveals her extraordinary gifts as both a writer and a director.
### 1971
2:00PM  $9/7  At Hotel Coolidge

Documentary USA  80 Minutes  Unrated

On March 8, 1971, eight ordinary citizens broke into an FBI office in Media, PA. Calling themselves the Citizens’ Commission to Investigate the FBI, they removed all the files and began mailing them, anonymously, to newsrooms. The most significant revelation that resulted was about COINTELPRO, a series of covert, and at times illegal, activities conducted by the FBI aimed at surveying, infiltrating, discrediting, and disrupting domestic political organizations. Despite one of the largest investigations ever conducted, the FBI never caught the burglars, and those responsible never revealed their identities. Until now. For the first time the burglars have decided to talk about their actions. 1971 is their story.

**Johanna Hamilton, director, will Skype in and Julia Rabig, Dartmouth professor, will lead discussion.**

### 112 WEDDINGS
4:45PM  $9/7  At Hotel Coolidge

Documentary USA  95 Minutes  Unrated

For the past two decades, acclaimed documentary filmmaker Doug Block (51 Birch Street, The Kids Grow Up) has helped support himself by shooting weddings. Hired for his intimate documentary style, he found himself emotionally bonding with his wedding couples on their big day, only to send off their videos and never see them again. Many years and 112 weddings later, having long wondered what’s become of their marriages, Block begins to track down some of his favorite couples. Juxtaposing rapturous wedding day flashbacks with remarkably candid present-day interviews, 112 Weddings explores timeless themes of love and marital commitment.

**Q&A with director Doug Block immediately following the film.**

### FRANK
6:45PM  $9/7  At Hotel Coolidge

Comedy/Drama  Ireland  95 Minutes  Rated R for language and some sexual content.

Starring Michael Fassbender and Maggie Gyllenhaal, **Frank** is about an aspiring singer/songwriter who falls under the spell of an enigmatic musician who performs while wearing a huge paper mache head. At first, we think the head is a gimmick, but the film works its emotional magic, turning what seems like grand farce into tragedy. The music is great, and the depiction of the rock ‘n’ roll world is spot on, replete with scenes actually shot at the South by Southwest Music Festival. *The Daily Telegraph* calls it “off-beat and punk-spirited,” while *The Guardian* says it “works as satire, as memoir, as comedy bromance, but it works mostly because it is just so weird.”

### A GIRL WALKS HOME ALONE AT NIGHT
8:45PM  $9/7  At Hotel Coolidge

Horror USA  99 Minutes  Rated PG13

This Iranian vampire Western is set in a ghost town full of seedy characters. Known only as “The Girl,” this lone vampire (played by Sheila Vand) sometimes glides around on a skateboard, adding a surreal modern layer to the hauntingly beautiful tale of love told in the style of David Lynch and Jim Jarmusch. Living in Bad City, The Girl is impersonal, in control, and guarded until she meets Arash (played by Arash Marandi), a slick rebel who intrigues and confuses her. Complemented by a soundtrack that mashes up 60’s-inspired Western guitar and Iranian pop, this first time feature for writer and director Ana Lily Amirpour is what A.O. Scott calls a “rock ‘n’ roll Persian feminist fable.” Last year,* Filmmaker magazine named Amirpour one of the “25 New Faces of Independent Film.”

### THE CULT OF JT LEROY
8 PM  Suggested Donation: $5  At Center for Cartoon Studies

Documentary USA  90 Minutes  Unrated

JT LeRoy was a teen prostitute, addicted to heroin and infected with HIV, when a therapist encouraged him to write his life story. Buoyed by a cadre of celebrities, he published three critically acclaimed books including *Sarah and The Heart is Deceitful Above All Things*. But as his fame skyrocketed, the shocking truth emerged: JT was not what he seemed. What followed was a downfall as bewildering as it was tragic. Director Marjorie Sturm is an award-winning filmmaker whose films span the genres: narrative, documentary and experimental.
Filmmakers, Flower Farmers, and Feminists

Ed Pincus (1938-2013) was a documentary filmmaker best known for his “First Person, Direct Cinema” approach, and for his seminal film, Diaries—about his family, loves and life. Jane Pincus was instrumental in founding the Boston Women’s Health Book Collective, and in writing the revolutionary women’s health book, Our Bodies, Ourselves in 1970. She also was one of several filmmakers who made “Abortion”. Together they operated a flower farm in Roxbury, Vermont.

WRIF is honoring Ed and Jane Pincus by screening several of their films and hosting a panel discussion about first-person documentaries.

PROGRAM

Saturday, April 25, 9am-6:30pm (coffee, bagels, and snacks will be served)
All Events will be held at Main Street Museum except 112 Weddings, which will be screened at the Hotel Coolidge.
Suggested donation: $5 - $10

Diaries (1971-1976), By Ed Pincus
9AM-NOON Main Street Museum

Ed Pincus’ masterpiece explores marriage, career, friends, and family during the sexual revolution of the 1970s. Le Monde, in a front-page review, called the film “an epic work that redefines an art, forcing us to rethink what we thought we knew about the Cinema.” With Diaries, Pincus helped pioneer the “personal documentary” genre. It's a pure delight of filmmaking, for cinephiles and filmmakers alike, with gorgeous 16mm camerawork and a stunning use of natural light. Every shot seems etched with love and a profound curiosity for the human condition. (Some nudity)

Panel on First Person Filmmaking
12:15-1:45PM at Main Street Museum
As viewers, we are accustomed to film crews hiding off screen and directors standing behind the camera. Revealing them would destroy the illusion of life unfolding magically. What happens when the filmmaker is a character in the film, when making the film is part of the story? What are the ethical and aesthetic challenges? In honor of pioneering first person documentarian Ed Pincus, we present a panel discussion with Jane Pincus, Tumba-bridge filmmaker John O’Brien (Man With A Plan), former Upper Valley filmmaker David Parry (An American School), and New York filmmaker Doug Block (112 Weddings). Documentary filmmaker and Dartmouth Professor Jeffrey Ruoff will moderate.

An American School (2015), by David Parry
2-4PM at Main Street Museum
A first person documentary about a group of parents—including director Parry and his wife—from a Los Angeles public elementary school in Silverlake, a progressive and racially mixed neighborhood. The film documents their opposition to a non-consensual co-location by a private charter corporation (Citizens of the World Charter) requiring public facilities and taxpayer funds. The film’s themes involve civil rights, classism, racism, ethics, law, and the slow march of privatization.
Q&A with David Parry and Lulu Wilson, moderated by Springfield Primary School Principal Dana Jacobson-Goodhue, immediately following the film.

112 Weddings, by Doug Block
4:45-6:15PM at Hotel Coolidge
Filmmaker Doug Block makes his living filming wedding videos. In this first person documentary, he visits some of his favorite couples to see what has become of their marriages.

Black Natchez (1967), by Ed Pincus and David Neuman
4:45-5:50PM at Main Street Museum
The film documents the black community of Natchez, Mississippi as they organize to fight police brutality and to register black voters. After a local NAACP leader is nearly killed in a car bombing, divisions develop within the community. The National Guard is called out, and a group of black men attempt to start self-defense organizations. Eerily prescient of Ferguson, Black Natchez shows us how little has changed since the 1960s.

Panola (1970), Ed Pincus and David Neuman
6-6:21PM at Main Street Museum
Companion piece to Black Natchez, this film presents a local black man—father of 8, wino, tree pruner, possible police informant, philosopher—as he describes the ups and downs of his life and tries to make sense of violence and non-violence during the heyday of the Civil Rights Movement in the South. Provocative and unflinching, Panola raises questions about the filmmaker’s gaze and his relationship to his subject.

Sunday

Felix and Meira
9AM $9/ $7 At Hotel Coolidge
Drama Canada 105 Minutes Rated R for a scene of sexuality/nudity
In Maxime Giroux’s Felix and Meira, we get a glimpse into the personal fracture lines in the hidden world of Hassidic Jews in Montreal. A young Hassidic woman, feeling trapped in marriage, longs for art and escape. When she meets a gentle man who is also searching for meaning in life, they both face frightening choices. In a bewitching performance, the Israeli actress Hadas Yaron plays Meira with sensitivity and charm, while Martin Dubreuil’s Felix is a disquieting mix of charisma, smarm and sadness. The authenticity of the Hassid community is startling, and the views of Montreal melancholic and brooding.
HOLLOW: AN INTERACTIVE DOCUMENTARY
11AM $9/7 At Hotel Coolidge
Transmedia USA 75 Minutes Unrated
Hollow is an interactive documentary and community participatory project that examines the future of rural America through the eyes and voices of those living in McDowell County, W.Va. Hollow combines video portraits, data visualizations, photography, soundscapes, community-generated content, and grassroots mapping to bring these stories to life through an online experience. Hollow won a 2013 Peabody Award, was a SXSW 2014 Finalist in “Activism” and “People’s Choice Awards,” and was a 2014 Webby Awards “Web Community” honoree. In 2013, Hollow Director Elaine McMillion Sheldon was named one of the “25 New Faces of Independent Film” by Filmmaker magazine.

TELL-IT-IN #TRANSMEDIA CONTEST AWARDS
12:30PM Free At Hotel Coolidge
WRIF is proud to announce the winners of the first annual Tell-it-in #Transmedia contest, sponsored by Google. Transmedia requires telling of a story by utilizing at least two distinct digital media, each of which provides a version of the story, but that together provide a richer, more textured, more informative narrative.

 Entries this year came from nine countries and utilized diverse digital media such as video, music, text, animation, social networking, gaming, mapping, and a wide variety of interactive approaches. WRIF judges selected 14 finalists, then a national panel of four celebrity judges chose the winner, who receives $2,500 and a tour of a YouTube production facility, and two runners-up, each of whom receives $1,000. All or part of the three winning entries will be shown at this event.
DJ Spooky, a renowned composer, multimedia artist, writer, editor, and one of the judges, will present the awards.

ABORTION (SCREENED WITH VESSEL)
2:15PM $9/7 (includes admission to Vessel) At Hotel Coolidge
Documentary USA 30 Minutes Unrated
This pre Roe v. Wade early 1970’s film includes interviews with women who had illegal abortions. Directed by Jane Pincus, Catha Maslow, Karen Weinstein, Susan Jhirad and Janet Murray.

VESSEL
2:45PM $9/7 At Hotel Coolidge
Documentary Netherlands 90 Minutes Unrated
Vessel begins with a young doctor who lives by the sea, and an unlikely idea. Rebecca Gomperts is horrified by the realities created by anti-abortion law around the world, and she resolves to provide abortions on a ship in offshore waters. Her project, Women on Waves, begins as a flawed spectacle, a media frenzy faced with governmental, religious, and military blockades. But with each setback comes a more refined mission, until Rebecca has the revelation that she can use new technologies to bypass law and train women to give themselves safe abortions using WHO-sanctioned protocols. We witness the creation of an underground network of emboldened, informed activists working at the cutting edge of global reproductive rights.
VESSEL (SCREENED WITH ABORTION)

THE BLACK PANTHERS: VANGUARD OF THE REVOLUTION
3PM $9/7 At Main Street Museum
Documentary USA 113 Minutes Unrated
In the 1960’s a revolutionary culture was emerging and those seeking to drastically transform the system believed radical change was not only feasible, but imminent. The Black Panther Party for Self-Defense would put itself at the vanguard of that change. Whether they were right or wrong, whether they were good or bad, more than 40 years after the Black Panther Party was founded in Oakland, the group remains powerful and enduring in our imagination. The Black Panthers weaves the voices of those who lived this story—police, FBI informants, journalists, white supporters and detractors, those who remained loyal to the party and those who left it.

THE KILL TEAM
5:30PM $9/7 At Main Street Museum
Documentary USA 79 Minutes Unrated
The Kill Team goes behind closed doors to tell the riveting story of Specialist Adam Winfield, a 21-year-old infantryman in Afghanistan who attempted, with the help of his father, to alert the military to heinous war crimes his platoon was committing. Tragically, his father’s pleas for help went unheeded. Once Adam’s fellow soldiers got wind of what he’d done, they threatened to silence him—permanently. Forced to choose between his conscience and his own survival, Adam found himself drawn into a moral abyss, faced with a split-second decision that would change his life forever. The Kill Team is an intimate look at the personal stories so often lost inside the larger coverage of the longest war in U.S. history.

WRIF/CATV FILM SLAM
5:15PM Free At Hotel Coolidge
WRIF and CATV teamed up for their 3rd Annual Film Slam Competition. Open to college and adult, high school, and middle school teams, these emerging filmmakers had only 48 hours to create a five-minute film! This year’s slam had a “floating” start date that allowed teams to choose when to begin – anytime after the April 1st kickoff meeting and April 18th. The teams are competing for generous CASH prizes. Come and watch the delectable results of pedal-to-the-metal film creation in this slam awards celebration and screening!
Manena is a very determined teenager and the darling daughter of Pancho, a rich Chilean landowner who devotes his vacations to a single obsession: the extermination of carp fish that invade his lake. As he resorts to ever more extreme methods over the course of the summer, Manena experiences her first deception in love and discovers a world that silently co-exists alongside her own: that of the Mapuche Indian workers who claim access to these lands... and who stand up to her father. The Summer of Flying Fish is a stunning and subtle depiction of class inequalities in the Chilean jungle, with gorgeous cinematography and top-notch acting.

For the last 20 years, notorious activist/pranksters the Yes Men have staged outrageous hoaxes to draw international attention to corporate crimes against humanity and the environment. Armed with nothing but thrift-store suits and a lack of shame, they lie their way into business events and government functions to expose the dangers of letting greed run our world. In their third film, they grapple with mid-life crises as they take on the biggest challenge they’ve ever faced: climate change. The Yes Men Are Revolting is provocative and funny as well as introspective. Revealing the real people behind the ruses, at its heart lies a hopeful message about fighting the real people behind the ruses, at its heart lies a hopeful message about fighting.

Discussion with leading Yes Man, Igor Vamos (using the alias Michael “Mike” Bonanno), immediately following the film.

SPECIAL PROGRAM—SHORT FILMS BY LOCAL FILMMAKERS: CELEBRATION AND SCREENING

Sun., April 26, 9am-12:20pm at Main Street Museum Suggested Donation: $5

Vermont and New Hampshire are an incubator for numerous films and home to a high level of filmmaking talent. Join these filmmakers to celebrate their work on the big screen. Start your Sunday with short films, docs, animation, and lively discussion. If you’re interested in film or if you make films, this is the way to begin your week. Nosh & watch. Coffee, bagels, and movies. Made fresh right here.

Films and synopses:

We are pleased to present three “hand-made” films by experimental animator and Dartmouth professor, Jodie Mack. Combining abstract/absolute animation with various cinematic genres and collage, Mack shoots on film to explore the relationship between graphic cinema and storytelling and the tension between form and meaning. Last year, Filmmaker magazine named Jodie Mack one of the “25 New Faces of Independent Film.”

**LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE**
Dir. Jodie Mack, Animation, 3 minutes

The ultimate photo-kinetic stroboscopic spectacle for spectacles. A work in the tradition of the absolute animation film of the 1930s, it requires prismatic glasses to achieve the maximum result.

**THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT**
Dir. Jodie Mack, Animation, 3 minutes

“Tis a rhyme for your lips and a song for your heart...to sing it whenever the world falls apart.”

**Glistening Thrills**
Dir. Jodie Mack, Animation, 8 minutes

A textual interrogation of holographic foil, in all its mass-produced, nostalgic glory.

**THE NORTH STAR**
Dir. Rob Koier, Drama, 3 minutes

Based on fugitive slave memoirs, this impressionistic short narrative follows an escaped slave on his journey from the south to New England.

**BOX**
Dir. Martin Castaneda, Experimental, 3 minutes

A story about a boy who grows to become all of his life-long fears.

**IT’S FRESH!**
Dir. Stephen J. Maas, Comedy, 6 minutes

Eating right has never been harder to swallow. It’s Fresh! is a satirical short that takes a wry look at today’s localvore, organic-crazed cultural phenomena.

**DO NOT DISTURB**
Dir. Matt Lennon, Drama, 11 minutes

A man quickly realizes that time passes a lot slower than expected when attempting suicide.

**11 PAPER PLACE**
Dir. Daniel Houghton, Animation, 6 minutes

In this love story, two 8.5 x 11 sheets of paper that magically transform into paper people as they are spit out of a malfunctioning printer into a recycling bin.

**THE CRANE**
Dir. Jeremy MacKenzie, Drama, 5 minutes

A man reflects back on the day his girl tried to teach him origami.

**KEEPER OF THE MOUNTAINS**
Dir. Allison Otto, Documentary, 25 minutes

In this portrait of Elizabeth Hawley, 91, we meet a woman who defied traditional gender roles, settled alone in Kathmandu in 1960, and is now considered the world’s foremost authority on Himalayan mountaineering. And yet she’s never climbed a mountain herself.

**ROSARY**
Cinematographer Tim Buttner, Music Video, 5 minutes

Set in a post apocalyptic landscape, a father and son have only each other in this hauntingly beautiful music video.
WHITE RIVER JUNCTION, VERMONT

WHITE LIES, BLUE DREAM
Dir. Christopher Ivanyi, Drama, 27 minutes
Lieutenant Henry Recklin travels to “Quiet Haven,” an institution for mentally troubled girls, to reconnect with his estranged daughter. He is shocked by the condition in which he finds her, and he seeks to discover the truth behind the bruises and suspicious marks that riddle her body.

BRIDGES
Dir. Harry Goldhagen, Comedy Drama, (excerpt from the feature film, 5 minutes)
Bridges features a distraught, disillusioned physician, a little girl with a life-threatening illness desperate for care, and a small town with a large vision: a vision of health care for all. This film tells the story of one doctor’s journey from bitterness and alienation to compassion and joy. The complete film is available at Vimeo on demand: http://vimeo.com/ondemand/26283

DARK LEGACY
Dir. Daniel Sparling, Fantasy Horror, 8 minutes
A young boy is pulled into a fight for his life with a dark spirit.

GOOD VIBES & DUCT TAPE: STORIES WITH CINDY PIERCE
Dir. Alex Gerstein, Documentary, 23 minutes
Cindy Pierce is on a mission to bring the truth about sex and relationships to the forefront through comic storytelling. Good Vibes & Duct Tape dives into Pierce’s hectic and multifaceted world, revealing how she maintains balance through openness and positive energy while impacting all those around her.

FREEDOM & UNITY TV YOUTH Filmmakers Awards
Sunday 1-2:30PM At Main Street Museum
Since September 2014, young Vermonters age 14 to 25 have been working on short films about Vermont and about their lives, passions, experiences, and interests. The filmmakers from Freedom & Unity: The Vermont Movie have been mentoring these young filmmakers in workshops around the state. The films they made are competing for awards in the first Freedom & Unity TV contest. Come and watch the winners and select a WRIF Audience Award!

MONDAY NIGHT—LEBANON OPERA HOUSE
FREE TO ROCK
HOW ROCK & ROLL HELPED END THE COLD WAR
PLUS A SPECIAL LIVE CONCERT BY JOHN MCEUEN, FOUNDER OF THE NITTY GRITTY DIRT BAND
6:30 PM $20 / $40 Premium* At Lebanon Opera House
Join us at LOH to rock to a new documentary and roll to the music that inspired the revolution that ended the Cold War. Free to Rock explores how American rock music spread like a virus through the countries behind the Iron Curtain in the last half of the 20th century. Directed by four-time Emmy award winner Jim Brown, the film follows the story as Radio Free Europe and Voice of America began pumping popular music into Eastern Europe and the USSR. American rockers, including John McEuen and the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band (the first Western band to tour the Soviet Union), toured live and inspired thousands of local underground bands and their tens of millions of passionate supporters who embraced rock music as the “sound of freedom.”
Film producer Doug Yeager will be on-hand to talk about the film along with former New York Times Moscow bureau chief and Dartmouth professor Christopher Wren. John McEuen, “America’s instrumental poet,” will cap off an exhilarating evening with a short concert.
*Premium tickets include preferred seating, post party at Three Tomatoes, and one raffle ticket for a drawing for a free round trip flight on Cape Air—Lebanon to NYC.

Left to right: John McEuen, Christopher Wren, fall of the Berlin Wall, Mikhail Gorbachev and the Scorpions in the Kremlin
The views expressed in programs presented by White River Indie Festival are not necessarily views held by White River Indie Festival.