



HHM

HELL'S HALF MILE
FILM & MUSIC FESTIVAL

**FILM
AND
MUSIC**

FESTIVAL

FESTIVAL PROGRAM
SEPT 22ND-25TH, 2016





Photos: Delta collegiate/Josie Norris

MISSION & OBJECTIVE

Hell's Half Mile Events is a non-profit organization dedicated to celebrating and expanding the art of independent film, music, and entertainment. We strive to exceed expectations, while inspiring our community to participate in the arts. Provide the alternative, entertain & inspire!

The Hell's Half Mile Film & Music Festival (HHM) is the perfect mix of independent film and live indie music. Our taste is eclectic, everything from quirky comedies to hard hitting documentaries to emotional dramas. Our goal is to find "the little film that could" — a bunch of them actually — and bring the filmmakers together to take over Bay City, MI.

WELCOME TO #HE11

HELL'S HALF MILE CELEBRATES IT'S 11TH YEAR OF BRINGING GREAT INDIE FILM AND MUSIC TO THE GREAT LAKES BAY REGION

TICKET PRICES

ALL-ACCESS PASS	\$60
Best value! Admission to everything!	
FILM PASS	\$35
Admission to all films	
FILM TICKET	\$5
FRIDAY NIGHT MUSIC	\$8
SATURDAY NIGHT MUSIC	\$15
Advance purchase prices on select items available at hellshalfmile.com through Sept. 18.	

OPENING NIGHT

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND

Opening Night Film: Creedmoria
7pm @ State Theatre (\$10)

Opening Night Party: 9pm- Midnight (\$10)

Music, food, drinks and a grand kick-off to #he11!

Buy your Film & Party tickets together for just \$15 (save \$5)

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

FREE! FILMMAKER PANEL | "THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE OF INDEPENDENT FILMMAKING"

Guest filmmakers try to answer the question "where are we?" in regards to what was, what is and what will be as independent filmmakers. Why do they make films in today's climate where thousands of films are being made for thousands of different platforms and outlets, and how do you get an audience to see it. | **Saturday, 2-3pm, Delta College Planetarium**

CROWDFUNDING RALLY

For the second year in a row, Hell's Half Mile and Seed&Spark bring you the Crowdfunding Rally. This unique event is your opportunity to make the move from filmgoer to film contributor by supporting and contributing to the making of the next great independent films. Follow each participating film's campaign online, hear the live pitch and then choose the film projects you feel deserve your support. You can help "green-light" a film project with any size contribution, from \$10 to as many digits as you want! | **Saturday, 6:15pm, Studio 23 Arts Center during the Saturday Reception - Passholders Only**

FREE! FULL DOME PREVIEW

Hell's Half Mile and the Delta College Planetarium present a selection of previews for full dome films. Experience film projected in the entire dome above you! | **Saturday, 5pm, Delta College Planetarium**

CROWDFUNDING TO BUILD INDEPENDENCE

The only proven path to true independence as an artist is a direct connection to your audience. This class for film-related projects will provide the crowdfunding and distribution action plan most likely to create a lasting, flourishing, direct relationship with your audience.

Friday, 1pm, Delta College Planetarium

2016 PRESENTING SPONSOR

POPULACE COFFEE CO.

SCHEDULE

THURSDAY

7:00 pm OPENING NIGHT FILM -Creedmoria - State Theatre

9:00 pm OPENING NIGHT PARTY -Old City Hall

FRIDAY

1:00 pm Crowdfunding for Independence class @ Delta College Planetarium

2:00 pm Shorts Program #1 @ Delta College Planetarium

2:00 pm..... Black Mountain Poets @ Masonic Temple Red Room

3:30 pm FREE MUSIC - Barbarossa Brothers @ Electric Kitsch stage

4:00 pm Best and Most Beautiful Things @ Delta College Planetarium

4:00 pm Donald Cried @ Masonic Temple Red Room

5:00 pm..... FREE MUSIC - Phil Roth @ Electric Kitsch stage

6:00 pm Cheerleader @ State Theatre

6:00 pm Mad @ Delta College Planetarium

6:00 pm Yallah! Underground @ Masonic Temple Red Room

7:00 pm Filmmaker Reception @ 401 Center Avenue (passholders only)

8:00 pm Delinquent @ State Theatre

8:00 pm Autumn Fall @ Delta College Planetarium

8:00 pm Tear Me Apart @ Masonic Temple Red Room

10:00 pm MUSIC EVENT @ The Empire Room

10:15 pm Gutboy: A Badtime Story @ Masonic Temple Red Room

SATURDAY

10:30 am MI Filmmaker Shorts Program @ Delta College Planetarium

12:00 pm Student Filmmaker Workshop @ Delta College Planetarium

12:00 pm Neptune @ Masonic Temple Red Room

2:00 pm Delinquent @ Masonic Temple Red Room

2:00 pm Filmmakers Panel @ Delta College Planetarium

3:30 pm FREE MUSIC - In the Whale @ Electric Kitsch stage

4:00 pm Shorts Program #2 @ State Theatre

4:00 pm Beach Town @ Masonic Temple Red Room

4:30 pm FREE MUSIC - Martin McNeil Trinity @ Jakes Corner Lounge stage

5:00 pm FREE SCREENING - Full Dome Preview @ Delta College Planetarium

5:00 pm Festival Happy Hour/ Crowdfunding Rally @ Studio 23 (passholders only)

6:30 pm The Hollywood Shorties @ State Theatre

6:30 pm Operator @ Delta College Planetarium

8:30 pm Claire in Motion @ State Theatre

8:30 pm Chicago Rot @ Delta College Planetarium

9:00 pm MUSIC EVENT @ Masonic Temple Blue Room

SUNDAY

10:00 am Hell's Half Mile Run @ Corner of 1st and Water St.

12:00 pm Cheerleader @ Delta College Planetarium

12:00 pm Shorts Program #3 @ Masonic Temple Red Room

1:30 pm FREE MUSIC - Handgrenades @ State Theatre

2:00 pm Who is Lydia Loveless? @ State Theatre

2:00 pm Black Mountain Poets @ Delta College Planetarium

2:00 pm Mad @ Masonic Temple Red Room

4:30 pm Neptune @ State Theatre

4:30 pm Donald Cried @ Delta College Planetarium

4:30 pm Best and Most Beautiful Things @ Masonic Temple Red Room

7:00 pm CLOSING NIGHT FILM - Borealis @ State Theatre

KEY

■ FILM

■ MUSIC

■ RECEPTION

■ SPECIAL EVENT



JURY AWARD SPONSOR



FROM THE MICHIGAN FILM OFFICE

For decades, the Michigan Film Office has been supporting the film industry in Michigan and positioning the state as a production destination. Celebrating filmmakers and their creative talent at film festivals across the state is part of this mission. Hell's Half Mile Film & Music Festival is helping to drive participation in the arts, while shining a light on the talent found in Bay City and the Great Lakes Bay region. The festival is a terrific opportunity for the community to participate in a discussion around film and music while exploring some of the unique venues Bay City has to offer. The Michigan Film Office applauds the organizers, volunteers and sponsors that work so hard to present this event each year and we are proud to once again support the Hell's Half Mile Film & Music Festival.

THANK YOU TO OUR HHM 2016 PRESENTING SPONSOR

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Saginaw River

Wenona Park

Veterans Bridge

1st St.

2nd St.

3rd St.

4th St.

5th St.

Center Ave.

6th St.

7th St.

McKinley Ave.

Washington Ave.

Adams St.

Madison Ave.

Washington Ave.

Jefferson St.

Washington Ave.

Adams St.

Jefferson St.

Madison Ave.

Water St.

Saginaw St.

12

10

11

2

8

7

20

18

14

19

15

4

9

17

16

1

13

5

3

6

HHM Film Venues

- 1 State Theatre
- 2 Delta College Planetarium
- 3 Masonic Temple Red Room

Non-Film Venues

- 4 G's Pizzeria
- 5 401 Center Ave.
- 6 Masonic Temple Blue Room
- 7 The Empire Room
- 8 Studio 23
- 9 Bay City Yoga

Festival Hot Spots

- 10 Old City Hall (restaurant/bar)
- 11 American Kitchen (restaurant/bar)
- 12 Tavern 101 (restaurant/bar)
- 13 Albert's General Store
- 14 Heather's (restaurant)
Lots of Vegetarian/Vegan Options
- 15 Jake's Corner Lounge
Live music Saturday afternoon
- 16 The Gourmet Cupcake Shoppe
- 17 Electric Kitsch (record shop)
Live music on Fri & Sat afternoon
- 18 Intermission Deli
- 19 Harless+Hugh Flea
- 20 Retro Attics





FEATURE FILMS



AUTUMN FALL

HHM Jury Nomination: Best Supporting Actress: Hilde Louise Asbjørnsen

Ingvild should have known Jeppe would be trouble from the word gå (Norwegian for “go”). The old thespian shows up drunk as a skunk at the theater she directs, railing from the cheap seats about how her actors can’t act. Soon Ingvild finds herself at Jeppe’s apartment nursing his hang-over, learning of his illustrious career, and, before long, making love to him. Little does she know they share an almost preternatural affinity for a reason: they have a history. Jan Vardoen’s bitter-sweet, beautifully acted drama goes down as easy as a lingonberry-filled krumkake.

Cast: Helge Jordal, Ingeborg Raustøl, Bjørn Sundquist, Hege Schøyen, Sverre Anker Ousdal, Hilde Louise Asbjørnsen | **Writer, Director, and Producer:** Jan Vardoen | **Recently Screened At:** Austin Film Festival, Macon Film Festival (Best in Show), International Independent Film Awards (Platinum Winner), Magnolia Independent Film Festival (Best Feature, Best Director)

Friday 9/23 @ 8:00pm, Delta College Planetarium



95 minutes
Narrative, Drama,
Romance



BEACH TOWN

Inspired more by films like *People on Sunday* (1930) than *Frankie and Annette*, *Beach Town* is a rock and roll beach movie of the mind - a quiet, unabashedly atmospheric look at the lives of young people whose art is ineffably linked with their surroundings in a low-rent coastal community. *Beach Town* features an upbeat summertime soundtrack and was shot entirely in Seattle in glorious, Super 16 color film.

Cast: Maya Briller, Ahren Buhmann, Mel Cafe | **Writer, Director, and Producer:** Erik Hammen | **Recently Screened At:** Seattle International Film Festival, Bellingham Music Festival

Saturday 9/24 @ 4:00pm, Masonic Temple Red Room



72 minutes
Narrative, Drama



BEST AND MOST BEAUTIFUL THINGS

Michelle Smith is a legally blind young adult affected by Asperger’s syndrome. She is also unusually thoughtful and intelligent, and lives under the care of a supportive mother who sends her to a renowned school for the blind. Michelle thus faces both daunting challenges and great expectations. This sensitive doc by Garret Zevgetis follows Michelle as she deals with her unique place in the world in ways that are often daring, shocking, capricious, and funny. Though it is one extraordinary young woman’s story, the film’s lessons about the importance of both testing limits and coming to terms with them are universal.

Cast: Michelle Smith and family | **Director:** Garrett Zevgetis | **Producer:** Ariana Garfinkel, Jeff Consiglio, Garret Zevgetis, Jordan Salvatoriello | **Recently Screened At:** SXSW (World Premiere), IFFBoston (Special Jury Award), Hot Docs

Friday 9/23 @ 4:00pm, Delta College Planetarium

Sunday 9/25 @ 4:30pm, Masonic Temple Red Room



91 minutes
Documentary



BLACK MOUNTAIN POETS

Jamie Adams’ tale of two inept con women posing as superstar poets comes to us from the absurdist fringe of British comedy. On the run for petty theft, Lisa and Claire have a chance encounter in the wilderness with the famous Wilding sisters. They end up stealing the sisters’ car along with their identities, arriving in their stead as guests of honor at a poets’ retreat in the Black Mountains. There they take turns delivering daft, off-the-cuff verse and competing for the attention of hunky poet Richard. If you love the improvisational humor of *The Office* and the dysfunctional train-wreck humor of *Absolutely Fabulous*, this one’s for you.

Cast: Alice Lowe, Dolly Wells, Tom Cullen | **Writer & Director:** Jamie Adams | **Producer:** Jon Rennie | **Recently Screened At:** Edinburgh International Film Festival, SXSW

Friday, 9/23 @ 2:00pm, Masonic Temple Red Room

Sunday, 9/25 @ 2:00pm, Delta College Planetarium



90 minutes
Narrative, Drama,
Comedy, Romance



FEATURE FILMS



BOREALIS

CLOSING NIGHT FILM

HHM Jury Nominations: Best Feature Film, Screenplay, Actress (Joey King), Supporting Actor (Kevin Pollak)

Jonah's gambling habit has left him with a massive debt and a gift for deception. He lies compulsively to his creditors, his long-suffering girlfriend, and his teenage daughter Aurora. Rather than confront Aurora with the growing seriousness of her vision disorder, he persuades her to skip town with him on a road trip to see the Northern Lights. Jonah's on the lam from his bumbling loan sharks, from Aurora's diagnosis, maybe even from himself. Producer/writer/star Jonas Chernick applies a light comic touch as Jonah tries to make it to the Borealis while regaining his daughter's trust and saving his own skin.

Cast: Jonas Chernick, Joey King, Kevin Pollak | **Director:** Sean Garrity | **Producer:** James Fler, Mark Gingras, Erla Glesby, Andrew Hunt, Phyllis Laing, Michael Paszt, Kevin Pollak, Jonas Chernick, Liz Jarvis | **Writer:** Jonas Chernick | **Recently Screened At:** Brooklyn Film Festival, Canadian Film Fest (Best Actress), Canadian Film Fest (Best Director) | **Scheduled to Attend:** Director Sean Garrity

Sunday, 9/25 @ 7:00pm - State Theatre



95 minutes
Narrative, Drama



CHEERLEADER

HHM Jury Nominations: Best Cinematography & Screenplay

Films about the cliquish world of high school girls typically veer toward an attitude of bemused detachment. They rarely try to get inside their subjects' heads, which are assumed to be unburdened by deep thoughts. Watching Irving Franco's *Cheerleader* is like reading the homecoming queen's diary. There are moments of vacuity and narcissism but also of pain, longing, and insight, as cheerleader Mickey seeks to make her boyfriend jealous by getting with the school's notoriously nerdy nice guy.

Cast: Catherine Blades, Chris Bert, Rachel Beyda | **Writer & Director:** Irving Franco | **Producer:** Nathan Marcus | **Recently Screened At:** Florida Film Festival, Atlanta Film Festival

Friday, 9/23 @ 6:00pm - State Theatre

Sunday 9/25 @ 12:00pm - Delta College Planetarium



69 minutes
Narrative, Drama,
Romance,



CLAIRE IN MOTION

HHM Jury Nominations: Best Actress (Betsy Brandt) & Best Supporting Actress (Anna Margaret Hollyman)

"If a tree falls in the forest ..." Any kid can complete the old thought experiment. When Claire's husband Paul takes a routine hike in a routine forest and doesn't return, she's faced with a more troubling conundrum: do even our closest loved ones exist when we don't see them? Paul's disappearance reveals a world of his that Claire never knew, much of it centered on a charismatic young artist named Alison. As Claire and her pre-teen son Connor seek clues to Paul's whereabouts, the mystery of what became of him is overtaken by that of who he was. Bay City native Betsy Brandt stars in this affecting drama co-directed by Annie Howell and Lisa Robinson.

Cast: Betsy Brandt, Anna Margaret Hollyman, Zev Havworth, Chris Beetem, Sakina Jaffrey | **Co-Writers, Co-Directors, Producers:** Lisa Robinson and Annie J. Howell | **Recently Screened At:** SXSW (World Premiere), Seattle International Film Festival

Saturday, 9/24 @ 8:30pm - State Theatre



80 minutes
Narrative, Drama,
Suspense,



CREEDMORIA

OPENING NIGHT FILM

HHM Jury Nominations: Best Feature Film, Soundtrack, Screenplay, Supporting Actor (Ryan Weldon)

This coming-of-age story set in Queens, New York, in the 1980s follows Candy, a waifish teen who hides her vulnerability behind a veneer of toughness. She's got a job at the local burger joint and a boyfriend with bedroom eyes and an Elvis sneer. It has all the makings of a John Hughes comedy, except for Candy's abusive mother, her two troubled brothers (one sexually confused, the other institutionalized), and the collection of psychiatric patients who roam Candy's neighborhood like town criers. A retro romp with a modern twist from writer-director Alicia Slimmer.

Cast: Stef Dawson, Rachel de Benedet, Ray Abruzzo, Steve Cavanaugh, James Kelley, Ryan A. Weldon, PJ Brown | **Writer, Director, & Producer:** Alicia Slimmer | **Recently Screened At:** Brooklyn Film Festival, Cinequest Film Festival, Dances with Films | **Scheduled to Attend:** Primary cast and filmmakers

Thursday, 9/22 @ 7:00pm - State Theatre



90 minutes
Narrative, Comedy



FEATURE FILMS



DELINQUENT

HHM Jury Nominations: Best Feature Film, Cinematography, Best Actor (Alex Shaffer), Best Supporting Actor (Sam Dillon)

Like a lot of teenage boys, Joey worships his father, Rich, who happens to be a career criminal. Joey yearns to follow in his dad's footsteps, so he's thrilled when Rich invites him to serve as lookout for the crew on a heist. Things go very wrong, leaving Joey burdened by guilt and paranoia. As the cops close in and the criminals begin to break ranks, Joey is torn between loyalty to his father and a desperate need to cleanse his conscience. Kieran Valla's haunting crime drama features a standout performance by up-and-comer Alex Shaffer as Joey.

Cast: Kim Director, Erin Darke, Bill Sage, Alex Shaffer | **Director:** Kieran Valla | **Producer:** Daniel Marks, Levi Smock, Alvaro Baquero Benedetti, Kieran Valla | **Writers:** Levi Smock & Kieran Valla | **Recently Screened At:** Brooklyn Film Festival (Best Actor, Best Narrative Feature) | **Scheduled to Attend:** Director Kieran Valla and Actor Alex Shaffer

Friday, 9/23 @ 8:00pm - State Theatre | **Saturday 9/24 @ 2:00pm** - Masonic Temple Red Room



97 minutes

Narrative, Drama, Suspense



DONALD CRIED

HHM Jury Nominations: Best Feature Film & Best Actor (Kris Avedisian)

With sudden passing of his grandmother, Peter Latang returns to his hometown and encounters his long lost, childhood friend, Donald Treebeck. What begins as a simple favor, turns into a long van ride into their past.

Cast: Jesse Wakeman, Kristopher Avedisian, Louisa Krause | **Writer & Director:** Kristopher Avedisian | **Producer:** Kyle Martin, Sam Fleischner, Allison Carter, Matt Anthony, Steve Skoly, Sean Lamb, Jesse Wakeman, Kyle Espeleta, Kris Avedisian | **Recently Screened At:** SXSW, Sidewalk Film Festival, Rooftop Films NYC

Friday, 9/23 @ 4:00pm - Masonic Temple Red Room

Sunday, 9/25 @ 4:30pm - Delta College Planetarium



85 minutes

Narrative, Dark Comedy



GUTBOY: A BADTIME STORY

In a fairy tale world of ugly puppets, a mermaid and a policeman's daughter wrestle for the affection of a skinless fisherman and for the skin the girls have traded since birth. Along the way strings get tangled and brains get swapped till no one's sure who's who. There's a lot of wrestling in Gut-boy, and more people get skinned in a day than Buffalo Bill from Silence of the Lambs skinned in a whole week. There's also a prostitute chorus, an alarmingly fecund hag, a cannibalism scene more joyous than anything this side of Romero, and much more. Someday scholars will debate whether the collective fates of Plop the clerk, Kug the cop, and Besto the capitalist anticipated the decline of the Western security-industrial complex. For now, as long as films like this one continue to be made the world will be okay.

Cast: Will Cooper, Megan Daniels, Dan Fenaughty, Misty Foster, Anthony Herrera, David Homyk, Nick Reed, Pearl Rhein, and Marybeth Schroeder | **Writer & Director:** Nick Grant | **Producer:** Gabe Grant

Friday, 9/23 @ 10:15pm - Masonic Temple Red Room



71 minutes

Narrative, Dark Comedy



THE HOLLYWOOD SHORTIES

The prospect of little people playing professional basketball might seem a tad oxymoronic. But in the 1980s a group of 4'9"-and-under Hollywood actors scored a gig entertaining crowds at Lakers halftime shows with their hoop skills. At first it was a lark, with the Shorties' bouts against the Lakers cheerleaders punctuated by interludes of naughty hijinks. But a lot of these guys had game, and soon the team faced a crisis of identity: were they athletes or entertainers? Ryan Steven Green's stellar doc chronicles a group struggling to reach its full potential and to be taken seriously by a society grappling with its own representations of difference.

Cast: Tony Cox, Martin Klebba, Jimmy Briscoe | **Writer & Director:** Ryan Steven Greene | **Producer:** Ryan Steven Greene & Craig Evans | **Recently Screened At:** SXSW, SF Doc Fest, Little People of America National Conference | **Scheduled to Attend:** Director Ryan Steven Green and cast members

Saturday, 9/24 @ 6:30pm - State Theatre



85 minutes

Documentary



FEATURE FILMS



MAD

What happens if sibling rivalry escalates right into adulthood, even as the siblings are expected to take responsibility for an aging and troubled parent? They lock her up in a psych ward, as sisters Casey and Connie do to their mother Mel. Casey is an underemployed loner who trolls the local bars for sleeping partners. Connie has a job and family but is equally messed up, as a work scandal threatens to land her in jail. And Mel's recent suicide attempt betrays a plea for attention from her self-involved daughters. Robert Putka's dark comedy-drama rides on the question of whether its three principals can reach some rapprochement before killing each other.

Cast: Jennifer Lafleur, Maryann Plunkett, Ellis Cahill, Mark Reeb | **Writer and Director:** Robert G. Putka | **Producer:** Mark Reeb, Kevin J. Hughes, Mike Blanchard, Robert G. Putka, Joe Battaglia, Ellis Cahill | **Recently Screened At:** Slamdance (World Premiere), Boston Underground Film Festival | **Scheduled to Attend:** Actress Jennifer Lafleur

Friday, 9/23 @ 6:00pm - Delta College Planetarium

Sunday, 9/25 @ 2:00pm - Masonic Temple Red Room



83 minutes
Narrative, Drama



NEPTUNE

HHM Jury Nominations: Best Feature Film, Cinematography, Actress: (Jane Ackermann)

Hannah is an orphan raised by a devoted, domineering priest on a small island off the coast of Maine. She seems destined for a life of religious service until she witnesses the sudden, senseless drowning of a classmate, testing her faith and jarring her sense of self. That summer Hannah seeks work and solace with the dead boy's fisherman father, Herb, who helps Hannah cut loose from her parochial moorings and introduces her to the life of the sea. Derek Kimball's somber and dreamlike debut recalls the early Terrence Malick, with a revelatory lead performance by Jane Ackermann as Hannah.

Cast: Jane Ackermann, William McDonough, Tony Reilly | **Director:** Derek Kimball | **Producer:** Derek Kimball, Matthew Konkol, Alan Baldwin | **Writer:** Matthew Konkol, Derek Kimball, Matt Brown, Douglas Milliken | **Recently Screened At:** Slamdance, Atlanta Film Festival, Woods Hole Film Festival | **Scheduled to Attend:** Director Matthew Konkol and others

Friday, 9/24 @ 12:00pm - Masonic Temple Red Room

Sunday, 9/25 @ 4:30pm - State Theatre



101 minutes
Narrative, Drama



OPERATOR

HHM Jury Nomination: Best Supporting Actress (Christine Lahti)

Tech geek Joe Larsen thinks anything can be quantified, even feelings. When his company is hired to program the ultimate customer service bot, they bring Joe's emotionally intelligent girlfriend Emily in to do the voice acting. Joe sets about coding what is most comforting in Emily's voice and manner, and soon finds himself relying on his digitally-distilled cyborg Emily to soothe his panic attacks and provide him with companionship. Logan Kibens' comedy follows Spike Jonze's Her and Alex Garland's Ex Machina in subtly exploring the dynamics of intimacy in a cybernetic age.

Cast: Martin Starr, Mae Whitman, Nat Faxon, Cameron Esposito, Retta, Christine Lahti | **Director:** Logan Kibens | **Producer:** Aaron Cruze, Logan Kibens | **Writers:** Logan Kibens, Sharon Greene | **Recently Screened At:** SXSW, Traverse City Film Festival, Bentonville Film Festival | **Scheduled to Attend:** Michigan natives/cowriters, Director Logan Kibens and Executive Producer Sharon Greene

Saturday, 9/24 @ 6:30pm - Delta College Planetarium



90 minutes
Narrative, Comedy,
Drama



TEAR ME APART

British director Alex Lightman's first feature is a dystopian fantasy with Biblical and primordial echoes. In the aftermath of some unnamed apocalypse, in a near deserted coastal landscape, two brothers forage for food and await the return of their long absent father. Their traps and fishing lines empty, one brother resorts to killing and cannibalizing any man they happen upon. Into their midst wanders a young woman, perhaps the last on Earth, also seeking her father. Around this orphaned and limboed triad, this dramatic set piece opens onto foundational questions of sexual desire, fraternal love, taboo, and survival.

Cast: Alfie Stewart, Frazer Alexander, Jennie Eggleton | **Director:** Alex Lightman | **Producer:** Alex Lightman, Tom Kerevan, Ern Herrmann | **Writer:** Tom Kerevan | **Recently Screened At:** Austin Film Festival, Raveena Nightmare Film Festival, Newport Beach Film Festival, Bronx International Film Festival

Friday, 9/23 @ 8:00pm - Masonic Temple Red Room



85 minutes
Narrative,
Romantic Horror



FEATURE FILMS



WHO IS LYDIA LOVELESS?

Lydia Loveless is a rock and roll prodigy from Columbus, Ohio, who began making records and touring when she was barely out of her teens. With her tiny frame and her voice as big as all outdoors, she's assembled a band of veteran musicians whom she leads with confidence and charisma despite her relative youth. Gorman Bechard's film combines interview and performance footage to give insight into the exacting creative process of a musical savant. It also goes beyond the typical music documentary in asking how great music continues to be made at a time when traditional mechanisms of music sales and marketing have collapsed.

Cast: Lydia Loveless, Todd May, Benjamin Lamb, Jay Gasper, George Hondroulis, Joe Viers | **Director:** Gorman Bechard | **Producer:** Gorman Bechard, Colleen McQuaid | **Recently Screened At:** IFFBoston, NHDocs

Sunday, 9/25 @ 2:00pm - State Theatre



108 minutes
Documentary, Music



YALLAH! UNDERGROUND

HMM Jury Nomination: Best Soundtrack

Across the Arab world a loose network of young musicians combines traditional Arabic music with rock, rap, and electronic sounds, evading both the orthodoxies of the older generation and the bland internationalism of mass culture. Farid Eslam's documentary surveys some of the Arab underground's most powerful musicians and gives voice to their social and political aspirations. It follows the musicians through the years leading up to and following the Arab Spring, as their naïve hopes for democracy and freedom give way to the realities of theocracy and sectarianism.

Cast: Zeid Hamdan, Mali Waleed Yassin, Walaa Sbait, Karim Adel Eissa, Ibrahim Farouk, Mayaline Hage | **Writer & Director:** Farid Eslam | **Producer:** Farid Eslam, Dana S. Wilson, Dina Harb, Jeffrey Brown | **Recently Screened At:** Munich International Film Festival, Raindance Film Festival, Filmfest München, San Francisco Independent Film Festival

Friday, 9/23 @ 6:00pm - Masonic Temple Red Room



85 minutes
Documentary, Music



CHICAGO ROT

After years of rotting in Joliet, Les, a wrongfully imprisoned street legend known as "The Ghoul," is released into a mad search through Chicago's back alleys for the man who slaughtered his mother and robbed him of his soul. Aided by enigmatic benefactors, he must delve beneath the city into a modern labyrinth of gutters whose tendrils have grown deep while he was gone. What unfolds is a desperate tale of brute force tragedy set in the supernatural underworld of Chicago, where heroes are reduced to horror-shows, villains dream of their own demise, and good and evil prove to be antiquated concepts.

Cast: Brant McCrea, Shira Barber, Dave Cartwright, Jeremy Vranich, Jojo Baby | **Director:** Dorian Wienzimmer | **Producer:** Jeremy Vranich | **Writers:** Dorian Wienzimmer, Brant McCrea | **Recently Screened At:** FilmQuest (World Premiere) | **Scheduled to Attend:** Cast and crew

Saturday, 9/24 @ 8:30pm - Delta College Planetarium



103 minutes
Narrative, Drama

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When you and your neighbors own it.
When it offers local products.
When its goal is to serve you, not make a profit for others.
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10% OFF Your In Store Purchase
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Groovy Mid Century Home Goods



SHORTS PROGRAMS

SHORTS PROGRAM 1: FRIDAY 9/23 @ 2:00PM DELTA COLLEGE PLANETARIUM

MY LUCHADOR

Narrative, Drama | 13 minutes

The Mexican wrestlers known as luchadors only remove their masks in defeat. The one in Shea Sizemore's touching comic short still wears his mask even though he's aged out of the ring and into an office job. A cubicle's no place for a luchador, but with the help of his loving wife he might just get back out on the mat.

Cast: Cedric Guthrie, Rachel Jefferys, Aaron Chavis, H. Blake Edwards | **Writer & Director:** Shea Sizemore | **Producer:** Chip White | **Recently Screened At:** Pensacola Short Film Festival (Best in Show), North Carolina Film Awards (Founders Award), Myrtle Beach International Film Festival (Best Short)

ROTATIO

Documentary | 4 minutes

One of art's great gifts is its power to help us move past (or better, through) our traumas. Among painstaking ticks of a Sharpie marker, artist Shannon May McKenzie hides and reveals details of a critical life event in this cathartic performance filmed by Ian McClerin.

Cast: Shannon May Mackenzie | **Directors:** Ian McClerin, Shannon May Mackenzie | **Recently Screened At:** Slamdance, AFI Docs, Indie Grits, Florida Film Festival

THE BORDER

Narrative, Drama | 23 minutes

HHM Jury Nomination: Best Short Film

In the wake of global chemical warfare, a military fortress in Northern England serves as a last bastion of civilization. Snipers kill outsiders to protect the stronghold from a mysterious virus transmitted by contact. But when Captain Thomas meets a familiar face at the border he is led to question the whole scenario.

Cast: Matt Hyde | **Writer & Director:** Norman Tamkivi | **Producer:** Alessandro Wingfield | **Recently Screened At:** Los Angeles CineFest, GoldenSun Short Film Festival (Best Drama)

TAMPOON

Narrative, Comedy, Student | 7 minutes

Cultural critic Camille Paglia contends that men spend their whole lives struggling to emerge fully from the chthonian abyss that is woman. Sean might well agree after an overactive tampon in Miranda's vajajjay reels him in like a 30-pound walleye.

Cast: Alexandra August, JJ Dunlap | **Director & Producer:** Jeanne Jo | **Writers:** Jeanne Jo, Nick Musurca | **Recently Screened At:** Slamdance, Hollywood Comedy Short Film Festival, Another Hole in the Head (Best US Short)

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF WILLIE BINGHAM

Narrative, Drama | 13 minutes

Good news: it's the future, and Australia in its infinite humanity has abolished the death penalty. Bad news: instead those convicted of capital crimes must give an arm and a leg, and then some. The "disappearance" of the title is literal in Matthew Richards' film about a man who's not what he used to be.

Cast: Greg Fryer, Kevin Dee | **Director:** Matthew Richards | **Writer:** Michael Fawcett | **Producer:** Brendan Guerin | **Recently Screened At:** Melbourne International Film Festival, Fantasia International Festival, Grossman Fantastic Film and Wine Festival (Best Short)

C.T.R.L.

Narrative, Sci-Fi, Dance | 3 minutes

Being a character in someone else's video game could get tiresome very quickly, but if you're paired up properly with a potential love interest it could also be a lot of fun. Watch Sophie and Tom losing control and loving it in this delightful short from U.K. filmmaker Mariana Conde.

Cast: Helena Dowling, Matthew Biancheri, Jack Everson, Moe Bargahi | **Director:** Mariana Conde | **Writers:** Mariana Conde, Stuart Grant, Donna Mabey | **Producer:** Donna Mabey, Stuart Grant | **Recently Screened At:** Rincon International Film Festival (World Premiere), LA Femme Film Festival (Honourable Mention in Shorts), Los Angeles Spotlight Film Festival (Best Music Video)

I WANNA BE IN ALL YOUR MOVIES

Documentary, Romantic Comedy, Comedy | 15 minutes

Aaron and Joey are on hiatus again. Joey's served as muse and co-star of Aaron's short films through the course of their mercurial romance. Now Aaron's demoted her to a bit part in his first feature. This making-of film with a love story subplot asks if these two will rebound and finally take leading roles in each other's lives.

Cast: Joey and Aaron | **Director & Producer:** Josh Freed

SOMETHING TO SAY [ALGO QUE DECIR]

Narrative, Foreign Language, Spain | 17 minutes

Chances are that on any given night somewhere in the world there's a great rock band playing its last gig. Hugs are shared, tears are shed, and petty grudges are set aside as the band lays into its first licks. From this film's opening shot of a lone guitarist sitting on an amp outside the graffiti-scarred entrance of a Madrid club, you can tell it's going to be one of those nights.

Cast: Tony Moreno, Lluvia Rojo, Fran Panadero, Edu Molina, Javier Mediavilla | **Writer & Director:** José Ángel Lázaro | **Producer:** Mario Madueño, José Ángel Lázaro, Sara Rollón | **Recently Screened At:** Spanish Short Film Festival, Silicon Valley Film Festival

THE URGE 2: IT LIES WITHIN

Narrative, Animation | 8 minutes

The vampire never really has a chance in this one. Maybe it's the townspeople's faith that does him in, or his habit of passing gas right before he takes his meals, or the fact that small animals are strangely attracted to his buttocks. Whatever it is, by the end of Chris Angus's animated short you'll almost feel sorry for the old bloodsucker.

Writer, Director, & Producer: Christopher Angus | **Recently Screened At:** International Film Festival (International Award of Excellence), New Animation International Film Festival (Best Animator), Independent Horror Movie Awards (Best Humor)

SHORTS PROGRAM 2:

SATURDAY 9/24 @ 4:00PM
STATE THEATRE

DOG DAYS

Narrative, Romance | 12 minutes

It's a hot summer night by a lonesome reservoir in London. A man and a woman stroll past one another and exchange pleasantries. The water looks inviting - will these two strangers take the plunge? George Taylor's gorgeous film is steamy and refreshing all at once.

Cast: Melanie Gray, Ivanno Jeremiah | **Writer & Director:** George Taylor | **Producer:** Will Willson | **Recently Screened At:** London Short Film Festival, Minneapolis Underground Film Festival, Seattle Transmedia & Independent Film Festival

SUSIE SUNSHINE

Narrative, Drama, Sci-Fi | 18 minutes

Smart girls are electric and sexy girls are fiery, but nice girls just exude sunshine. That may sound like a slogan from an old etiquette film, but in this futuristic fantasy from Chelsea O'Connor it's the formula for success of a ruthless corporation that's figured out how to harness women's powers until they burn out. But Susie's got other ideas.

Cast: Jessica Howell, Melisa Marie Elias, Jeff Corbett, Geoffrey Wade | **Writer & Director:** Chelsea O'Connor | **Producer:** Chelsea O'Connor, Elizabeth Engle, Jessica Howell, Marisa Ruby | **Recently Screened At:** Los Angeles Women's International Film Festival (World Premiere, Best Narrative Short), Sarasota Film Festival, Sidewalk Film Festival

KILLER FRIENDS

Narrative, Comedy | 11 minutes

Why do we let irritating people into our lives? And having done so, how do we remove them? We can drop hints till we're blue in the face, but they keep coming back like the Terminator. Sometimes there's only one solution, as a group of friends decide in this darkly comic short from Zach Noe Towers and Tina Carbone.

Cast: Zach Noe Towers, Dave Racki, Jenna-Lee Carreiro, Peggy Sinnott | **Directors:** Zach Noe Towers, Tina Carbone | **Writer:** Zach Noe Towers | **Producer:** Tina Carbone, Jenna-Lee Carreiro, Zach Noe Towers | **Recently Screened At:** St. Louis International Film Festival, Dances with Films, Cleveland International Film Festival

HUM

Narrative, Animation, Student | 9 minutes

HHM Jury Nomination: Best Short Film

Some of us may look forward to a life of labor-free automation, but what about the robots? In this charming Pixaresque short from animator Tom Teller, a robot assembled from industrial detritus is liberated from a life of dishwashing drudgery with the help of a friendly hummingbird.

Cast: Adam Della Maggiora, Brodin Plett, Jackie! Zhou | **Writer & Director:** Tom Teller | **Producer:** Tom Teller, Logan Day | **Recently Screened At:** LA Shorts Fest, Bend Film Festival, Athens Animfest



SHORTS PROGRAMS

BOY TOYS

Narrative, Comedy | 6 minutes

What healthy American child doesn't enjoy torturing her dolls? Dolls are among the few groups in our society that don't enjoy basic rights. Carson and Ken are about to learn it the hard way in this comedy from Canada via the Twilight Zone.

Cast: Annika Elyse Irving, Brock Couch, Stefan J. Blab, Dylann Bobei | **Writer, Director, & Producer:** Trevor Kristjanson | **Recently Screened At:** REEL PRIDE Film Festival (Audience Choice Award), Shart International Comedy Film Festival (People's Choice Award), Fargo Film Festival

CANARY

Narrative, Drama, Thriller | 11 minutes

HMM Jury Nomination: Best Short Film

A shady young couple strolls into Midge's gas station in the Pennsylvania coal country. They take a liking to her knickknacks, her paintings, and her pet canary. Later, Midge finds the bird deceased, and when she ventures out to dispose of its carcass she discovers it's not just canaries that get caged in this neck of the woods.

Cast: Catherine Curtin, Patrick Murney, Izzie Steele | **Director:** Marie Schlingmann | **Writers:** Marie Schlingmann, Samantha Buck | **Producers:** Samantha Buck, Laura Heberton | **Recently Screened At:** IFFBoston, Montclair Film Festival, Maryland Film Festival

ALZHEIMER'S: A LOVE STORY

Documentary | 16 minutes

HMM Jury Nomination: Best Short Film

Greg was a charming and talented gentleman when he was struck by Alzheimer's. In this sensitive portrait we watch as Michael, Greg's partner of four decades, struggles to connect with Greg in the face of this tragic disease and to assure that Greg's final days are redeemed by an awareness of Michael's undying love.

Cast: Michael Horvich, Gregory Maire | **Directors:** Gabe Schimmel, Monica Petruzelli | **Producer:** Amanda Le | **Writers:** Michael Horvich, Gabe Schimmel | **Recently Screened At:** Rhode Island International Film Festival (World Premiere, First Place Alternate Spirit, Best GLBTQ Short), Outfest LGBT Film Festival, Humboldt Film Festival (People's Choice & Best Documentary)

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF THOMAS THUMB JR.

Narrative, Comedy, Student | 12 minutes

A rags-to-riches story centered on a guy with a giant thumb for a head, featuring Chinese finger traps, penile extensions, Taxi Driver monologues, and an emotional arc running from hope to desperation to redemption in 12 minutes flat. Filmmaker Ryan Fox shows what can be accomplished with a thumb-shaped mask, a tiny crew, and an outsized gift for comic absurdity.

Cast: Sam Radue, Tim Higgings, Bobby Ciraldo | **Writer, Director, & Producer:** Ryan Fox | **Recently Screened At:** Los Angeles Short Film Festival, Boston Underground Film Festival, Milwaukee Twisted Dreams Film Festival

SHORTS PROGRAM 3:

SUNDAY 9/25 @ 12:00PM

MASONIC TEMPLE RED ROOM

ANGLERS

Narrative, Drama, Suspense, Foreign Language, France | 12 minutes

Fly fishing and serial killing don't seem like professions that call for similar skill sets, but who knows? Take a little film with the beauty and grace of A River Runs through It, throw in a bit of Texas Chainsaw Massacre, and you might arrive at something like this sly French short.

Cast: David D'Ingeo, Simon Boutin, Roman Villedieu | **Writer, Director, & Producer:** Yoann Garel

THIS IS HOW I WANT TO REMEMBER H.E.R.

Narrative, Drama | 26 minutes

A young black boy is given a different kind of education when his cousin from the inner city moves in with his suburban family.

Writer, Director: Kali Baker-Johnson | **Producer:** Shannon Losinski | **Cast:** Jabree Webber, Alexander Shulman, Khairi Christopher

RYE MANHATTAN

Narrative, Comedy, Romantic Comedy | 7 minutes

Emile should have chosen a bar with a more distinctive name, maybe "Semolina" or "Pumpernickel." As he waits for his date at the Rye Tavern and calms his nerves with Jack Daniels and onion rings, an exchange of texts sends him on a chaotic footrace through Brooklyn.

Cast: Matt Cohen, Stacie Capone, Abby Holland | **Director:** Michael Goldberg | **Writers & Producers:** Michael Goldberg, Dave Chan | **Recently Screened At:** Iron Mule Film Festival (Audience Award - Best Film), Middle Coast Film Festival, Long Island International Film Expo

THE CURATOR

Documentary | 12 minutes

After an injury dashed Clyde Doepner's dreams of playing Major League baseball, fate brought him in contact with the Minnesota Twins owner, who hired him as the League's first full-time curator. That was four decades ago and Clyde's still at it. In Andrew Putschoegl's doc, Clyde shares some of the treasures he's collected along with his reflections on the game he loves.

Cast: Clyde Doepner | **Director & Producer:** Andrew Putschoegl | **Recently Screened At:** Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival

AFTERMATH

Narrative, Comedy, Foreign Language, Germany | 10 minutes

HMM Jury Nomination: Best Short Film

A young woman wakes up alone with a hangover in a strange apartment. There's a vinyl of Beat Happening's Jamboree, which is always a good sign. When a man arrives back with breakfast, conversation moves from awkward small talk to what happened the previous night and whether it matters. This short from German director Ralf Beyerle broaches big questions with a light comic touch.

Cast: Iris Becher, Sebastian Schwarz | **Writer, Director & Producer:** Ralf Beyerle | **Recently Screened At:** Beeston Film Festival (World Premiere, Best Comedy), Los Angeles CineFest, "Der phantastische Trashfilm" Festival (Winner Audience Choice Award)

OMMA

Narrative, Drama | 9 minutes

There's no love like a mother's love. Some children starve for lack of it. But what of the mother who's abandoned by her child? In John Sanvidge's somber and understated film, Miss Su languishes for the boy who called her "omma," which is Korean for "mom."

Cast: Chujo Seo | **Writer, Director, and Producer:** John Sanvidge | **Recently Screened At:** One-Reeler Short Film Competition (Award of Merit)

TONGUE STABS CHEEK

Narrative, Drama | 12 minutes

God rolls his dice in a shack on the edge of town where fish heads hang from the rafters and a metronome marks time and an old TV set dances with snow. In this one anything can happen, and it frequently does.

Writer, Director: Kyle Heller | **Producer:** Karl Schirnhofner | **Recently Screened At:** Future Films Showcase, Interrobang Film Festival, Moonrise Film Festival

THE MAGICIAN

Narrative, Animation, Fantasy, Music | 8 minutes

This magician can't saw a lady in half but he can toss a sword in the air and split open her gown. He can't pull flowers from a hat but he can make them emerge from a knight's nose. He's a conjurer, like every magician going back to the medieval wizards, like the artist who conjures a rich world from layers of 2-D figures in this extraordinary animated short.

Animator, Director: Thom Lu | **Original Music, Producer:** Andrew Rubin | **Writers:** Andrew Rubin, Thom Lu | **Recently Screened At:** Los Angeles Cinefest, Phoenix Comicon (Best Animated Film), Sidewalk Film Festival

KADDISH!

Narrative, Comedy, Horror, Foreign Language | France, 6 minutes

Chance meetings at highway rest stops never go well in the movies. This one involves a happy-go-lucky black Jew and a murderous neo-Nazi psychopath. Things look grim until a stroke of old-fashioned mysticism crosses us over into George Romero territory in this enchanting comedy-horror musical from France.

Cast: Steve Achiepo, Alexandre Pivette | **Writer & Director:** Emeline Castandeda | **Recently Screened At:** Motor City Nightmares, Silver Scream Fest (Best Musical), Berlin Short Film Festival

MICHIGAN SHORTS:

SATURDAY 9/24 @ 10:30AM

DELTA COLLEGE PLANETARIUM

IMMERSE

Documentary, Local, Student 8 minutes

PAINTING PILFINGER

Narrative, Drama, Local, 12 minutes

PUCKER UP

Narrative, Comedy, Local, Student, Delta College Film Capstone, 8 minutes

NATASHA

Narrative, Drama, Local, Student, Delta College Film Capstone, 8 minutes

CROOK'D

Narrative, Comedy, Local, Student, 16 minutes

MORBUS

Narrative, Horror, Local 2 minutes

THE SCORPION TAIL

Narrative, Drama, Local, 6 minutes

THE QUIZ

Narrative, Comedy, Local 8 minutes

MUSIC LINEUP



THUR. SEPT. 22, 9 P.M. @ OLD CITY HALL BANQUET ROOM, 814 SAGINAW ST.

1. BOUDOIR NOIR (FLINT)

With an aesthetic steeped in the seedy sultriness of Prohibition-era speakeasies, Boudoir Noir are as theatrical as they are mesmerizing. Self-styled as “dark cabaret pop,” their anachronistic motifs are sensual and simmering, with lead singer Maria Rose serving as a chanteuse-like guide beckoning you into their burlesque domain.

2. RAREWOLF (DETROIT)

Synth pop is as captivating and energizing as it gets when it comes from RareWolf. The trio crafts layers of evocative textures, gloopy beats, and infectious melodies. Centering it all, and setting it apart from their electro pop peers, are Lauren M. Long’s vocals. Not the twee voice typically associated with the genre, hers is a vibrating contralto with a jazzy, R&B flavor reminiscent of Amy Winehouse or Paloma Faith, which beautifully contrasts with the sugary strains.

FRI. SEPT. 23 3:30 P.M.

ELECTRIC KITSCH, 917 WASHINGTON AVE.

3. BARBAROSSA BROTHERS (SAGINAW)

Self-described as “Michigan-bred bayou folk,” this trio purveys a mix of hardscrabble blues, Appalachia folk, southern-fried soul, and rollicking alt. country. Throw in a dash of bluegrass whimsy and the jazzy sway of instrumental interplay and you’ll get a sense of their rich, homespun sound.

FRI. SEPT. 23 5 P.M.

ELECTRIC KITSCH, 917 WASHINGTON AVE.

4. PHIL ROTH (BAY CITY)

Experimental aural tapestries running the gamut from the mournful to the whackadoo are this native son’s stock and trade. His approach has a DIY dedication with thoroughly atmospheric results. The frontman of the Esperantos and Noble Whips, Roth is performing a stripped down set, showcasing everything from the folksy to the clamorous that make up his moving art.

MUSIC LINEUP

FRI. SEPT. 23 8 P.M. @ THE EMPIRE ROOM, 1205 WASHINGTON AVE.

5. NORTY (GRAND RAPIDS)

The taking apart and fusing back together of disparate musical genres is the order of the day for Kyle Norton, known under his performing moniker Norty. Taking an electronic bedrock, anachronistic jazz lounge basslines, piano notes, and brushed drums, he blends them with hip hop beats and searing vocals for a thoroughly engrossing sound collage. You might recognize him as one-half of Obese Ghost Children, who performed at HHM's all hip-hop showcase in April 2016.

6. THE SUNBURNS (DETROIT)

Take one part surf rock, one part misanthropic punk, and one part proto-rock pop. Mash them all up in a grime-encrusted blender with a pinch of rabies and scorched-earth ethos and you get the Sunburns. They're the gnarliest bunch of atavistic sonic nihilists around, with a remarkable songwriting acumen hidden within the crusty shell. If the instruments start smashing, stay clear of raining shrapnel.

SAT. SEPT. 24 3:30 P.M.
ELECTRIC KITSCH, 917 WASHINGTON AVE.

9. IN THE WHALE (DENVER)

This Colorado duo's massive sound belies their minimalistic roster. Starting with a blues-punk template, they surge with the energy of a flickering, sidwinding live wire. They've played Lollapalooza, Austin City Limits, and South by Southwest and have opened for such luminaries as Jane's Addiction, Murder by Death, and the Rev. Horton Heat. Their Electric Kitsch performance is a rare, intimate gig, and one that's free to boot.

SAT. SEPT. 24 8 P.M. @ MASONIC TEMPLE BLUE ROOM, MADISON AVE. & SIXTH ST.

11. THE SATIN PEACHES (DETROIT)

Playing only their second show since reuniting in 2016 after a long hiatus, the Satin Peaches are Michigan indie rock royalty. They channel the heaviness of Soundgarden when it's called for, then sideswipe it with instantly catchy Beatlesque melodies and a songwriter's subtlety. Featuring the alternating and harmonizing vocals of George Morris (now of his namesake's Gypsy Chorus) and Jesse Shepherd-Bates (now in the HandGrenades), their arsenal for varied songcraft is nearly unmatched. (Sidenote: The band formed around the members' affinity for Saginaw Bay marlin hunting.)

**12. QUEEN KWONG
(DETROIT BY WAY OF LOS ANGELES)**

Primeval. Feral. Cathartic. Just a few words to describe Queen Kwong, fronted by Carré Callaway. Squalling guitars, throbbing basslines, and pummeling percussion serve as the bedrock on which Callaway caterwauls and writhes. Their shows are incendiary and fueled by a volcanic eruption of demons, like a tent show revival doubling as a communal exorcism. Think the Stooges fronted by early era PJ Harvey. Originally from L.A. and discovered in her teens by Nine Inch Nails' Trent Reznor, Callaway recently relocated to Detroit, bringing her ferocious brand of anarchistic rock with her.

7. SIAMESE (DETROIT)

Siamese hail from a world of perpetual twilight. They conjure an atmosphere pregnant with a paranoid dread, then build it cinematically with basslines and percussion that emanate from an abyss and sprawl out. Their evocative sound is pure dark wave, a seductive mélange of synth pop and post-punk's serrated edge. By turns sinister and vulnerable, this quartet's slithering movements are intoxicating.

8. THE ERERS (DETROIT)

The Erers (the first "er" is silent) are personified swagger with the songwriting chops to back it up. With a lumbering heaviness and a monolithic stomp, their savage riffs bring no shortage of hooks. On stage, they have the commanding presence of a buffalo stampede, with the accompanying adrenalin jolt.

SAT. SEPT. 24 4:30 P.M.,
JAKE'S CORNER LOUNGE, 114 THIRD ST.

**10. THE MARTIN MCNEIL TRINITY
(LOS ANGELES BY WAY OF ENGLAND)**

McNeil purveys a sound in line with the alt. country echelon. His tales are rife with unflinching introspection delivered over haunting melodies. Think Ryan Adams, Elliott Smith, Sparklehorse, Wilco and Joseph Arthur and you approximate the territories McNeil mines. A natural storyteller, the wit and winsomeness are flushed out with the inclusion of a lap steel and delicate percussion.

13. ELECTRIC SIX (DETROIT)

Yeah, you read that right, Hellions. Electric Six, those manic maestros of absurdist disco-punk-metal fusion are headlining HHM, babies. You might know of them from such classic ditties as "Gay Bar", "I Buy the Drugs", "Germans in Mexico", "Dance Epidemic", "Down at McDonnelzzz", and "Body Shot". Dick Valentine and crew have a plethora of love and they're ready to put it all up in ya. They have 11 albums to their credit, and they're bringing them all to Bay City and passing the savings onto you.

**SECRET SHOW — COME TO THE FEST TO
LEARN THE TIME AND PLACE**

14. LXL (DETROIT)

Featuring a quintessential hip-hop roster of two emcees and one DJ, LXL (Large Extra Large) can rock any spot in no time flat. Possessing a symbiotic dynamic similar to that of classic acts Clipse or Camp Lo, rappers Jah Connery and Warren Peace effortlessly deliver wordplay over Stone's Throw-esque beats supplied by cut master DJ KeeFlow. Although the exact time and venue of their performance remains a mystery, Hellions will definitely want to put in the necessary sleuthing to catch these fellas represent on stage.

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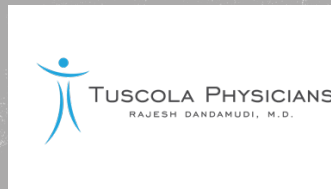
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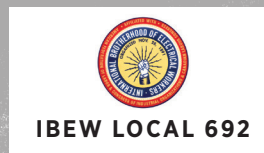
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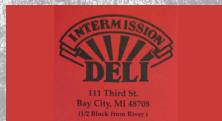
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