

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Tickets highlight early favorites for film fest

Events to celebrate
10th anniversary

By Georgia Leonhart
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Film buffs are studying their programs and filling out their film planners as they make their choices among the many film offerings at the 10th annual Rehoboth Beach Independent Film Festival. Included are 34 feature films, 11 documentaries, 35 shorts, a country spotlight consisting of four films from Israel and 11 films combined to form a regional showcases.

By exercising their privilege to make advance purchases of tickets, Rehoboth Beach Film Society members have been giving strong indications of their initial favorites, with eight films taking early leads in ticket sales, said Festival Program Director Joe Bilancio during an interview Tuesday, Nov. 6.

Included among the eight is "Flawless," which has already sold out.

Directed by Michael Radford, the film pairs Demi Moore and Michael Caine as disgruntled employees who concoct a disastrous 1960s diamond heist.

Tickets were still available for showings of the remaining seven favorites. Shot on Barnegat Island off the coast of New Jersey, "Greetings From the Shore" is a classic tale about coming of age during a summer at the beach. The story is based on the true-life experiences of writer and producer Gabrielle Berberich. Director Greg Chwerchak said he believes the film holds a universal message for all people familiar with summer resort life - whether they go to the beach or to the shore, adding that the film has been enthusiastically received at many film festivals.

"Half Moon," directed by Bahman Ghobadi, is the story of a Kurdish musician who gathers his family and exiled Kurdish singers to go to Iraq to celebrate their freedom following the fall of Saddam Hussein. Winner of awards at the San Sebastian and Istanbul international film festivals, the film is presented in Kurdish and Farsi with English subtitles.

Recipient of the best film award at the Sedonia International Film Festival, "Islander" - a story about Maine families that worked the sea for generations - is directed by Ian McCrudden and joins the list of early favorites. Also making the list is "I'm Not There," a biopic starring four actors including Cate Blanchett and Richard Gere as Bob Dylan in the film directed by Todd Haynes.

Bringing a touch of humor to the list and making its U.S. premiere is "Late Bloomers," a story about a little old woman who scandalizes her Swiss-German mountain town by confronting her clergyman son, creating lingerie and opening a lingerie salon in a storefront where the pastor had expected to conduct Bible studies. Directed by Bettina Oberli, the film is presented in German and Swiss German with English subtitles.

Another award-winning film, "Rocket," about the brutal 1950s world of professional hockey before the use of protective helmets, has been compared to movies like "Rocky" and "Cinderella Man." Directed by Charles Benamé, the film is in French and English with English subtitles.

Completing the list of early favorites is "In the Shadow of the Moon," a documentary that won audience awards at the Sundance and Florida film festivals. Directed by David Singleton, the film features firsthand accounts of



Submitted photo
Kim Shaw stars in "Greetings From the Shore," an early favorite of film enthusiasts planning to attend the 10th annual Rehoboth Beach Independent Film Festival. Directed by Greg Chwerchak, the film is based on summers spent at the New Jersey shore by writer and producer Gabrielle Berberich and promises to pull on the memories of every person who was once a young summer worker at any East Coast ocean resort.

their experiences by all surviving crewmembers of the Apollo missions and original film coverage from NASA.

Achievement awards

In celebration of a decade of festivals, the film society is also hosting a celebrity decade achievement brunch beginning at 10 a.m., Friday, Nov. 9, at Dogfish Head Brewings & Eats. One of the founding members of the Rehoboth Beach Film Society, Rob Rector, said the location is particularly appropriate because Dogfish Head is the birthplace of the society.

Producer Christine Vachon will be recognized, with clips from her early films "Office Killer" and "Hedwig and the Angry Inch," as

well as her newest film, "I'm Not There."

Actor Sam Rockwell will also be recognized with clips from his earlier films "Confessions of a Dangerous Mind" and "Lawn Dogs" along with his new film, "Joshua."

Writer and actor Ken Marino will appear from 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Nov. 10, at the Inn at Canal Square in Lewes, to be recognized for his works including two recent films, "The Ten" and "Diggers."

The recipients will discuss their work with the audience and plan to respond to questions from the crowd. Tickets cost \$75.

Other events include the children's cinema corner for ages 3 to 10 at 1 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 10,

and the student film series at 2 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 11. Both will be in the upstairs screening room of the Midway Theater.

Events scheduled in the big tent include spirits, beer and wine tasting, live music and Israeli folk dancing.

The festival will end with Sunday evening's closing night celebration from 5 to 7 p.m., also in the big tent, during which time audience-choice winners for best feature, best debut feature, best documentary and best short will be announced.

More information regarding the film festival is available online at www.rehobothfilm.com or by calling 645-9095.

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Waitin On a Train makes Dogfish its next stop Nov. 9

Acoustic, roots-oriented band Waitin On A Train will make a stop, Friday, Nov. 9, at Dogfish Head in Rehoboth Beach. Brave enough to cover the likes of bluegrass greats the Stanley Brothers and Bill Monroe, the band is aiming to set the music genre on its ear with a fresh turn on the clas-

Steppin' Out

the music is there in new material and cover songs. Elements of other styles sneak into the mix, including punk, to create a sound

play in and around its home state, at gigs ranging from fiddlers conventions to rock and roll clubs. Now the band adds southern Delaware's favorite brew pub to its list of performances.

Check out Waitin on a Train at its website, [www.myspace.com/waitinona-](http://www.myspace.com/waitinona)

