

ALT.DOC.FEST

What?

Alt.doc.fest is a 3 day documentary festival showcasing a range of new and topical activist films including the Northern premiere of the epic documentary "XXI Century". The timetable for our main room is overleaf. In addition we will have a media lounge where a range of other short films will be shown. You can find out more details about most of the films we will be showing by visiting the timetable section of our web site.

Where?

The film festival is at Sheffield Independent Film, 5 Brown Street just 50 yards along from the Showroom Cinema & Bar.

Cost?

Entry is free although we ask for donations to help cover our costs. No one is paid to run the event but hire of equipment and venue etc has cost £400. Any extra money we make from the event will go to towards a new UK server (see below) and the local Sheffield Indymedia collective. We suggest around £3.00 per day from those who can afford it.

What is Indymedia?

Indymedia is a network of individuals, independent and alternative media activists and organisations, offering grassroots, non-corporate, non-commercial coverage of important social and political issues. This is primarily disseminated through a global network of web sites where anyone can report what is newsworthy to them and as they see it. The idea is an open platform to which everyone can contribute rather than a small media elite with their particular interests.

Server Appeal

On Oct 7th the FBI siezed the hard drives on Indymedia servers in London shutting down an Indymedia radio station and around 20 different Indymedia websites from Ambazonia to the UK. Thousands of individuals who have posted hundreds of thousands of articles on these web sites suddenly found their voices silenced by an unknown hand.

This experience shows that more servers are needed. The ideal would be to have all data distributed on different servers all over the world.

Following the FBI raid, a number of Web servers have been offered to the UK site and are already in use. Our aim now is to build a publishing server for the UK and other Indymedias. If we can raise several thousand pounds, we can get a very fast machine on a fast connection making the UK sites work a lot better. In addition, it will enable us to help other Indymedia sites in different parts of the world.

More info?

To keep informed about further events organised by Sheffield Indymedia you can join our very low volume email announcements list. Add your email to our list on the door or go to our web site and click on 'contact' to find out how.

SAT 12TH - SUN 14TH NOVEMBER



SHEFFIELD INDYMEDIA PRESENTS:

ALT.DOC.FEST

A DOCUMENTARY FRINGE FESTIVAL
SHOWCASING 3 DAYS OF FILMS FROM THE
FRONTLINES OF THE FIGHT AGAINST CAPITALISM



FRIDAY

Unprecedented 2pm (50 mins)

The riveting story about how Dubya stole the 2000 US Presidential Election. Given the controversy surrounding the 2004 election this film will be a timely reminder of the fiasco of the last!

Bring Me The Head of Rob Lowe

3.15pm (90 mins)

Critically acclaimed and commercially baffling, the Media Lounge have been captivating audiences for the last two years with their unique blend of searing cinematic satire and market-stall VHS cast offs. This special show is a cut and paste kerb-crawl around the Hollywood backlot, combining shorts, sketches, bootleg music videos and an unnatural obsession with the disgraced brat-packer.

Outfoxed 5.15pm (75 mins)

Rupert Murdoch's Fox news, as we all suspect, were found to be writing the news, not reporting it! This film reveals the secrets of former Fox employees as they talk about how they were forced to push a "right wing" point of view or risk their jobs.

Tactical Frivolity 5.45pm (40 mins)

The story of a group of girls, a truck and some pink and silver costumes take on the World Bank, the IMF and Czech riot police in in Prague at the historic protests against the World Bank and IMF in September 2000.

XXI Century Film 1 - The Dawn

8.00pm (60mins)

With intro and Q&A session with the directors. Looks at the US Presidential elections and September 11th. What really happened that day? Who were the terrorists who attacked the US? Why and how did they do it and with whose money? With Howard Zinn, Gore Vidal and Greg Pallast.

XXI Century Film 2 'Land the pursuit of happiness'

9.30pm (60 mins)

With intro and Q&A session with the directors. The story of what has happened in America after September 11th, 2001. The Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Freedom, democracy and the First Amendment. The Patriot Act and Guantanamo. Noam Chomsky, Gore Vidal, Howard Zinn and many others question the "official version" and the status quo.

Short cutz 11pm (30 mins)

A variety of short and entertaining films.

SATURDAY

Chlorine 12.00pm (50mins)

A bad ass skate documentary featuring all the old punk skateboarders checking out places to skate pools, posing as cleaners, avoiding police, whatever... to get access to pools and reclaim space in their urban landscape for skating. Features Lance Mountain, Duane Peters, Steve Olson, Tony Alva and lots more.

Genoa Red Zone 1pm (60mins)

A hard-hitting film presenting the real story of the bloody anti-G8 demonstrations that happened in Genoa in 2001. Eight months in the making with a cast of thousands this hour-long documentary does not shy from the truth.

XXI Century Film 3 - 'Land nothing but the truth'

2.15pm (60mins).

With intro and Q&A session with the directors. The third part of the documentary puts the media complex under trial, and particularly those news outlets which sold their soul and worked as the propaganda machine of the power. A meaningful list of concrete examples is told to us by some of the most irreverent, honest and bravest journalists and news people. Noam Chomsky, Gore Vidal, Howard Zinn, Arno Mayer, Greg

Palast, Katha Pollitt, Amy Goodman and many others will enumerate examples of how the mainstream media abdicated its public role as watchdog of the power.

Crowd Bites Wolf 3.30pm (23 mins)

A radical, humourous and typically British look at the protests that shut down the World Bank and IMF meeting in Prague in September 2000.

The Pie's the Limit 4.00pm (20 mins)

A documentary on the Biotic Baking Brigades global pierect action movement.

XXI Century: Film 4 'war, peace and patriotism'

5pm (60mins)

With intro and Q&A session with the directors. Vietnam Veterans talk about their experiences of war. Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch talk about the military spending and the new weapons. The Nobel Peace Prize Nelson Mandela reflects on the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombs while a Hiroshima survivor, remembers that tragic event.

XXI Century: Film 5 'Civilisation' 6pm (60mins)

A look at the history of Iraq from the famous civilizations of the Sumerians, Babylonians and Assyrians to World War I, the collapsing of the Ottoman Empire and the partition of the Middle East and Saddam Hussein and the Baath Party. The close ties between the Reagan and Bush Administrations with Saddam Hussein during the Iran-Iraq war are explored and the use of gas against the Iranians and the Kurds. Finally this part looks at invasion of Kuwait, the first Gulf war, the UN sanctions against Iraq and their effects on the civilian population.

Fourth World War 7.30pm (76mins)

An awesome film that brings together the inspiring images and the poetry of worldwide social struggles against neoliberalism. It keenly shows a system that is increasingly dependent on violence and the so-called "war on terror" in order to sustain its world order.

In whose Interest 9.15pm (26mins)

A powerful overview examining the effect of US foreign policy on the lives of people in Central America, Southeast

SUNDAY

XXI Century film 6 'blood and oil'

12.00pm (60mins)

With intro and Q&A session with the directors. The cost of war on the civilian population of Iraq and the Iraqi economy. What was the price? And who paid it? UN and the International Criminal Court. Weapons of mass destruction and the inspections. Oil, US military bases in the Middle East and the doubts of part of the American Establishment. What's the connection between Iraq and Venezuela? Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, former UN weapons inspector Scott Ritter, Gore Vidal, Noam Chomsky and Howard Zinn. Finally the historian Arno J. Mayer opens new horizons and talks about a missing link.

XXI Century Film 7 'Pax Americana'

1.30pm (60mins)

With intro and Q&A session with the directors. The last part of "XXI CENTURY" looks at the problem from a new angle. Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, historians and international scholars will deconstruct the arguments relative to human rights and bringing democracy to Iraq that were brought by the Bush Administration as the main reasons to go to war. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict; the connections between the Bush Administration and the Sharon Government; the geopolitical scenario after the war in Afghanistan and Iraq. The Israeli filmmaker Udi Aloni will add his passionate point of view. Who's who in the Bush Administration and beyond and propose an interesting point of view on the "Old Europe business." Howard Zinn, Gore Vidal, Noam Chomsky, and Arno Mayer will try to see and foresee the century that has just – and so tragically – started. The XXI Century has begun.

Asia, the Middle East - David Kaplowitz, the director, will be in Sheffield to talk about this documentary and we will be showing two more of his film shorts.

Kilometer Zero 10.30pm (30mins)

Shot and edited during the 5th WTO Ministerial in Cancun, Mexico, Km. 0 depicts the determination and power of thousands of dissenters both inside and outside the barricades that protected the WTO Meetings, while also bringing to light the critical issues surrounding the WTO's escalating campaign of corruption. Against the surreal backdrop of Cancun, Km. 0 brings together over 20 video makers to depict the powerful story of the shutdown and crash of the 5th Ministerial.

DSEi AND Fairford Coach Kidnapping

11pm (30mins)

The DSEi arms fair in London attracted thousands of protestors and masses of police. However despite their best efforts committed acts of direct action significantly disrupted the event. Fairford was one of the main US bases used in the UK used in the war against Iraq. When a big protest was planned

Price of Tea 3.30pm (30 mins)

A film made by two Sheffield Indymedia folk on their travels through Sri Lanka highlighting the working conditions and pay of tea workers. We hope to have the film makers there.

Shorts 4.00pm (30 mins)

A variety of short and entertaining films.

We Interrupt this Empire 4.30pm (68 mins)

"We Interrupt This Empire..." is a collaborative work by many of the Bay Area's independent video activists which documents the direct actions that shut down the financial district of San Francisco in the weeks following the United States' invasion of Iraq. With the audio backdrop including the live broadcasts of SF Indymedia's Enemy Combatant Radio and the SFPD's tactical communications that were picked up by police scanners, the documentary takes a look at the diverse show of resistance from the streets of San Francisco as well as providing a critique of the corporate media coverage of the war and exploring such issues as the Military Industrial Complex, attacks on civil liberties, and the United States' current imperialist drive.

"This is a clear picture of what's left of an American conscience in the midst of this national horror-show--this is the best damn doc I've seen on the local face of what might have been the largest anti-war movement in world history." – Craig Baldwin of Other Cinema

Shorts 6pm (???)

More short films to keep the evening going.