

FILM

Huntington Filmmakers Featured In Expo

By Theodora Makris

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Lights, camera, action! The Long Island Film/TV Foundation and the Nassau County Film Commission are presenting the 17th Annual Long Island International Film Expo (LIIFE) July 9-17, and two filmmakers with Huntington roots are among those whose work will be shown.

This year, the expo will feature 158 short and feature-length independent films of all genres from all over the world. Described as “one of the top 25 coolest film festivals in the world” by MovieMaker magazine, the festival will honor some of the most promising filmmakers in the business with various awards and recognition.

Beginning in 1997, LIIFE has been committed to discovering up-and-coming filmmakers who are trying to break into the business. Film students and professional filmmakers are evaluated on their films equally, and everyone who is interested in filmmaking is encouraged to submit their work.

One of those being featured is Marc Riou, a cinematographer from Huntington Station. Riou was the recipient of LIIFE’s Best Cinematographer Award last year for his short film “Tilt of a Rose.” This year, Riou has returned to LIIFE with three short film submissions and two movie trailer submissions.

Growing up, Riou said he always had fun creating silly amateur videos with his friends. With imagination and a video camera, he loved the ability to create oth-



Right, Huntington Station native Marc Riou, whose work is being featured at the Long Island International Film Expo, films behind the scenes. Left, a still from Cosmo Carlson’s expo entry “Time Lost,” which he filmed at Centerport Beach.



er worlds, turning fantasies into realities, he said.

Despite his interest in a career in music production, he found filmmaking to be an exciting field he could turn into a successful and self-fulfilling career.

Riou attended C.W. Post-LIU, where he learned about all aspects of filmmaking. After his first year, he decided to spend the next three years perfecting his craft in cinematography.

Since graduating, Riou has been creating films in the area that he is most familiar with – Long Island. Locations for his works have included many towns in Suffolk County, including Port Jefferson

and Jamesport.

Riou has submitted three short films into this year’s festival. “Return” is a film about a man who wakes up to find that his wife and child are missing, and after investigating, learns that the world he is in is not what it seems. “The Interview” is a comedy in which expectations of business and pleasure are confused when a college graduate goes from a job interview with the boss who does not show any boss-like qualities, to a date with a woman who is strict and demanding. “Evening Class” was a published short story adapted into a short film in which a professor lectures to an empty classroom after losing all of his students to

boring lectures.

“Being a Long Islander, LIIFE is the festival that’s most dear to me,” Riou said. “It has a great film family atmosphere. I haven’t personally experienced a film festival that feels so much like a celebration of everyone there.”

Riou described LIIFE as a creative environment with the potential for collaboration.

Another filmmaker who submitted his short film into LIIFE is Cosmo Carlson, an NYU film student from Centerport whose assignments have included creating short films with crew members from his class. Carlson went to Centerport Beach to shoot “Time Lost,” where he filmed the entire short in two days. The film is about an older man who scours the beach in search of his missing pocket watch. Carlson said he chose Centerport for the location because of his familiarity with it, but also because of its uniqueness.

“In the winter, this beach has beautiful scenery that is vast and open,” Carlson said. “In addition to its beauty, it has a grand but lonely space that was important to capture. It lent itself perfectly to the theme of the film.”

LIIFE is Carlson’s first international film exposition.

“It is exciting to be accepted, and deeply gratifying to see my work up on the big screen,” he said.

Tickets for the expo, to be held at Bellmore Movies in Bellmore, N.Y., can be purchased online at www.longislandfilm.com.

HISTORY

Fire Museum Displays 75-Year-Old Piece Of History

Old-time, 1939 American La France Engine returns to Cold Spring Harbor fire trucks lineup

By Andrew Wroblewski

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“The past is the key to the future.”

As Tom Hogan described the incredible historic artifacts – some, 90 years old – that grace the Cold Spring Harbor Fire House Museum, which he himself opened, that is the sentiment he held highest.

Now, Hogan has added a new key to his set: A 1939 American La France Engine – a fire truck that was used and maintained by the Cold Spring Harbor Fire Department through the ’40s, ’50s and up until the mid-1960s.

“Two years ago we had a guy come into the museum and tell us that he knew who had the American La France,” Hogan, who has served as a volunteer fire fighter for Cold Spring Harbor, said. “We made contact and went to see the truck on numerous occasions.”

The man whom Hogan contacted was Harvey Pincus, of Brooklyn, who purchased the truck nearly 20 years ago. Pincus’ father held a love for trucks and his son purchased it so that the two could ride together in it. Over that time, Pincus maintained the truck “beautifully,” according to Hogan, even as the truck played a part in annual Memorial Day parades through Brooklyn.

Having retired the truck, Pincus decided to return it to Cold Spring Harbor last

month in memory of his parents, Harold and Maxine.

“Harvey brought the truck out and has thoughtfully placed it on exhibit for us,” Hogan said. “I think it’s wonderful that something like this can be returned to the community in such wonderful condition.”

Hogan would go on to describe a meeting arranged between the museum and Cold Spring Harbor firefighters who served through the ’40s and ’50s who were “excited to see something that they drove so long ago.”

The ’39 truck now stands alongside two other timeless artifacts in Cold Spring Harbor fire history: The 1924 Ford Model TT Chemical Engine and an 1852 hand pumper – both of which were handled by the department in the past.

“I think the artifacts show the importance of history,” Hogan, who opened the Cold Spring Harbor Fire House Museum in 2007, said. “These pieces give a sense of what people did, what they had to drive and what they had to work with while fighting fires – they show evolution.”

Contained now at 84 Main St. in Cold Spring Harbor – in what once was the original Cold Spring Harbor Fire Department building – the museum is opened to visitors from 12-5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Arrangements for tours and other visits are also available. General admission costs for adults is \$2, with children entering for free.



Harvey Pincus drives the 1939 American La France Engine – originally operated by the Cold Spring Harbor Fire Department – that he donated to the Fire House Museum on Main Street last month.

Photo/Michael Farahid