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C: Ben Fowlie, 617.817.5376

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THE DOCYARD PRESENTS 2012 WINTER PROGRAM AT THE BRATTLE THEATRE, JANUARY 23 – APRIL 16

Fourth Edition of Biweekly Screening Series Celebrates Documentary Films and Begins with a Rare Screening of *Space Coast* by Ross McElwee and Michel Negroponte

CAMBRIDGE, MA — The DocYard, Boston's premiere showcase for documentary film, has announced its winter program beginning January 23rd with a very special screening of *Space Coast*, a film by renowned documentary filmmakers Ross McElwee and Michel Negroponte. Filmed in 1979 while the two were attending MIT's graduate documentary film program, *Space Coast* chronicles the lives of three characters in Cape Canaveral, Florida several years after the phasing out of the Apollo moon missions. This rarely seen work will screen at 8pm at the historic Brattle Theatre followed by an exclusive, in-person Q&A with McElwee and Negroponte.

Acclaimed documentary filmmakers Ross McElwee and Michel Negroponte, now professors at Harvard and New York University, respectively, co-directed this evocative film which follows three residents: a news reporter, a maintenance man, and an owner of a small construction company. Their post-Apollo lives in Cape Canaveral reflect upon America's fascination with the space program, which has been in decline since NASA's heyday in the 1960s and 70s. As a full-fledged example of the powerful style of *cinéma vérité* filmmaking, *Space Coast* is an early testament to the documentary filmmaking movement here in New England and offers an intriguing view of American culture.

"We're extremely excited to bring this film back to the theatres and share it with our audiences. Both McElwee and Negroponte are pioneers in the form and it will be an exciting see where their careers began," said Sara Archambault, co-founder and programmer for the DocYard.

"The MIT program where McElwee and Negroponte got their start helped establish Boston as a center for innovation in documentary film," says co-founder Ben Fowlie. "Part of our mission is to highlight this rich legacy and connect the next generation of filmmakers with both local legends and new talent from around the globe."

90 min. Watch the trailer at <http://rossmcelwee.com/spacecoast.html>.

The DocYard's 2012 Winter season returns to the Brattle Theatre every other Monday from January 23 to April 16. The series continues to offer an incredible array of nonfiction and documentary works, with stories about fights against bureaucracy, racism and personal demons. All screenings begin at 8pm, followed by a Q&A moderated by Boston-based filmmaker Chico Colvard, and an after-party at the Crimson Lounge in Harvard Square.

Season passes are \$50 and can be purchased online through Kickstarter until January 31st at <http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1738989608/the-docyard-season-4>. Individual tickets for each film are \$10 and can be purchased online at www.brattletheatre.org or prior to show time at the Brattle Theatre box office. For more information on the DocYard and its 2012 Winter Season, visit www.thedocyard.com.

THE DOCYARD 2012 WINTER PROGRAM

Opening Night Film – January 23

***SPACE COAST* (1979)**

Q&A with directors Ross McElwee and Michel Negroponte

SPACE COAST follows three residents of Cape Canaveral, Florida, several years after the phasing out of Apollo moon missions.

February 6

***OUR SCHOOL* (2011)**

Q&A with director Mona Nicoara

OUR SCHOOL follows three Roma (commonly known as "Gypsy") children in a rural Transylvanian village who are among the pioneer participants in an initiative to integrate the ethnically segregated Romanian schools.

February 20

***CAMPAIGN* (2007)**

Q&A with director Kazuhiro Soda

CAMPAIGN provides a startling insider's view of Japanese electoral politics in this portrait of Yama-san, a man plucked from obscurity by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) to run for a critical seat on a suburban city council.

March 5

***BOMBAY BEACH* (2011)**

Q&A with director Alma Har'el

Winner, Best Documentary, Tribeca Film Festival

Winner, Emerging Cinematic Vision, Camden International Film Festival

BOMBAY BEACH is a dreamlike poem that sets the personal stories of distinctive yet familiar characters to a stylized amalgam of observational documentary and choreographed dance. The film's setting, the Salton Sea, is a barren Californian landscape often seen as a symbol of the failure of the American Dream.

March 19

***BATTLE FOR BROOKLYN* (2010)**

Q&A with director Michael Galinsky and Suki Hawley

BATTLE FOR BROOKLYN follows the story of reluctant activist Daniel Goldstein as he struggles to save his home and community from being demolished to make way for a professional basketball arena and the densest real estate development in U.S. history.

April 2

***SCENES OF A CRIME* (2011)**

Q&A with director Grover Babcock

SCENES OF A CRIME explores a nearly 10-hour interrogation that culminates in a disputed confession and an intense, high-profile murder trial in New York state in which detectives, prosecutors, witnesses, jurors and the suspect himself offer conflicting accounts of exactly what happened in this mysterious and disturbing true-crime documentary.

Closing Night Film – April 16

***MARATHON BOY* (2010)**

Skype Q&A with director Gemma Atwal

MARATHON BOY is the story of a four-year-old boy who is plucked from the slums of India by his coach and trained to become India's greatest runner, but what starts in hope turns into the stuff of film noir: a tale of greed, envy and broken dreams.

THE DOCYARD

Created in 2010 by Archambault, Sean Flynn and Ben Fowlie, the DocYard has quickly become one of Boston's most respected cinematic events, screening a combination of new works from emerging filmmakers and classics from some of the region's most distinguished filmmakers like Frederick Wiseman and Ross McElwee. The series was recently recognized with a special commendation from the Boston Society of Film Critics for "presenting a vibrant forum for the Boston documentary community to see important new non-fiction works and to have meaningful discussions with the filmmakers."

The DocYard is presented by the LEF Foundation and the Camden International Film Festival with generous support from Documentary Education Resources, Irving House at Harvard, Modulus Studios, Nesson Media Boston, Rule / Boston Camera, Tommy Doyle's Crimson Lounge and the Cambridge Arts Council/Massachusetts Cultural Council.

For more information on the DocYard and its 2012 Winter Season, visit www.thedocyard.com

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