

** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **

Contact: Mark Elijah Rosenberg
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ROOFTOP FILMS 2006 SUMMER SERIES - WEEK 4

THU. JUNE 22: *CRASH LANDING* (Feature documentary, dir. Luc Cote)

New York Premiere!

Soldiers leaving the military don't always merely return—sometimes they crash land.
On the roof of **DCTV** (87 Lafayette @ White), TriBeCa, Manhattan

FRI. JUNE 23: *BUGCRUSH: SEX AND HORROR* (Short Films)

Terrifying shorts about sexual confusion.

On the lawn of **Automotive High School** (50 Bedford Ave, @ N13th), Williamsburg, Brooklyn

SAT. JUNE 24: *WHO IS BOZO TEXINO?* (Feature Documentary, dir. Bill Daniel)

New York Premiere!

The name Bozo Texino has been scrawled on a million railcars—but who the hell is he?
On the roof of **The Old American Can Factory** (232 3rd St @ 3rd Ave) Gowanus, Brooklyn



L-R: *Crash Landing*, *Who is Bozo Texino*, *BugCrush*

High resolution stills available upon request at press@rooftopfilms.com

8PM: LIVE MUSIC

9PM: FILMS

TICKETS: \$8 (Fri., Sat.) / **\$10** (Thu.) available at the door or online at www.rooftopfilms.com/tickets.html

In the event of rain, shows are indoors or under cover at the same location

SEE FOLLOWING PAGES FOR MORE DETAILS

- PREVIEW TAPES / DVDs & HIGH RESOLUTION STILLS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST
- FULL PROGRAM NOTES, FILM DESCRIPTIONS, VENUE INFO, SCHEDULE OF OTHER EVENTS AND MORE AVAILABLE AT WWW.ROOFTOPFILMS.COM



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THURSDAY, JUNE 22

CRASH LANDING (Feature documentary, dir. Luc Cote)

New York Premiere!

8:30 - Live music: **Marla Hansen**

9:00 - Soldiers leaving the military don't always merely return—sometimes they crash land.

Venue: On the roof of **DCTV** (87 Lafayette @ White), TriBeCa, Manhattan

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Crash Landing (Luc Cote | Montreal, Canada | 52:00)

Since 1990, Canadian Armed Forces have been deployed around the world: in the Persian Gulf, Rwanda, Bosnia, Afghanistan, Cambodia, Lebanon and elsewhere. Though they go as peacekeepers, soldiers must prepare for war, and do their jobs in the midst of the planet's bloodiest conflicts. Some lose their lives, others their souls. 15 to 20% of soldiers are diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder and fail in their ultimate assignment, that of returning to civilian life. They crash land.

Georges, Leandro, Marc and Nathalie are among that number. Brave soldiers trained in combat, prepared to kill and be killed, ready for anything, anything but to be diagnosed with a grave psychological disorder. Stoic, fiercely committed and loyal to the military image, they hid their illnesses for a long time, ignoring early symptoms that would eventually engulf and plunge them into an endless nightmare. Some sought help, as did Nathalie, on board a ship patrolling the Persian Gulf. But no one listened, either to her or to the others. In the army, one shouldn't think too much, and one doesn't complain. Signs of weakness are seen as cowardice, so one stifles the murmurings of one's soul. A tacit rule that unfortunately doesn't cure the ill or stem its relentless course.

Crash Landing opens our eyes to the impossible daily lives of human beings devastated by pain, and in so doing, reveals the true face of war and its deadly power of destruction. "We act as buffers in order to shelter the Canadian population from the horrors of war", says Stephane, a lieutenant colonel. "What I think about war is that we would be better off without it." How valid are these peace missions whose consequences and dangerous nature are unknown to the general public? Do we need other forms of intervention to deal effectively with the complexity of modern-day conflicts and the proliferation of terrorist acts? Can we just keep increasing the number of missions without an equivalent increase in resources? How to protect soldiers from the psychic death they are unwittingly exposed to? These questions form the background to the powerful, personal testimonies that are the heart of *Crash Landing*. A film of immense sensitivity that questions the State and all of humanity.

Crash Landing is preceded by the short film:

Fat Cake (Leslie Dektor | Soweto, South Africa | 25:00)

"What happens to a man if he is denied the ability to express himself? There is a let out." For a shy young black man named Lemmy, living under Apartheid, solace lets itself out through the saxophone. His tender-hearted father says he was tapped at early age to be a lawyer or a minister. Instead, Lemmy takes on the name "Sparks Nyeme," and records a successful album. But the system being what it is, Lemmy reaps none of the benefits of his recording, and continues to live in poverty, playing unchallenging popular hits for white audiences in exchange for a little "sugar." This beautiful portrait was filmed in 1978, but when one of the participants was jailed, filmmaker Dektor held off editing until 2006.

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FRIDAY, JUNE 23

BugCrush: Sex and Horror (Short Films)

8:30 - Live music by **Belacqua** (avant-chamber horror)

9:00 - Terrifying shorts about sexual confusion.

Venue: On the lawn of **Automotive High School** (50 Bedford Ave. @ N13th), Williamsburg, Brooklyn
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Bugcrush: Sex and Horror

In horror movies, sex often carries a moral subtext. Passion is a threat, and desire appears deviant. Promiscuity leads to danger, and the licentious are punished. But in this program of short horror films, sexual confusion is the subject, not the subtext. The characters here suffer because their idea of sexual normalcy is viewed as abnormal by those around them (*First Date*), or because psychopaths prey on their uncertain status in society (*Guy 101*). Elsewhere, horrible things happen when sexual conduct is so outrageous that the lines of reality begin to blur (*Dirtyglitter 1: Damien*), and the concept of love is being systematically warped beyond recognition (*L'Amour Est...*). But the difference between these shorts and conventional horror films is that sex is not the root of evil here. Sex is a liberation that's often scary to face (*BugCrush*, *Dish*).

THE FILMS:

BugCrush (Carter Smith | 30:00)

Winner of the 2006 Sundance Film Festival Grand Jury Prize for Short Film.

A gay high school crush, a mysterious insect, one of the scariest films you'll ever see.

Dish (Meloni Poole | 11:00)

Can she have her cake and eat him? One stranger's fantasy is another's nightmare.

Guy 101 (Ian W. Gouldstone | 8:30)

Internet dating gone very, very awry.

Dirtyglitter 1: Damien (Aron Kantor | 14:00)

www.dirtyglitter.com

A precariously intoxicated hustler finds photographs of himself in a gallery and sets out on a cross-town mission to find the mysterious artist.

L'amour est... (Victor Throe | 5:00)

This animated film plays out an age old ritual in which an innocent young girl flees her lover . . . a mad scientist conducting sadistic experiments on her in the name of love.

First Date (Gary Huggins | 20:00)

Official Selection of the 2006 Sundance Film Festival.

A tough guy in a half-way house needs to hide his passions from himself and his teenage lover.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 24

Who is Bozo Texino? (Feature Documentary, dir. Bill Daniel)

New York Premiere!

8:30 - Live music

9:00 - The name Bozo Texino has been scrawled on a million railcars—but who the hell is he?

Venue: On the roof of **The Old American Can Factory** (232 3rd St @ 3rd Ave) Gowanus, Brooklyn

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Who is Bozo Texino (Bill Daniel | Railways across the country | 55:00)

Who Is Bozo Texino? is a great American movie, and its greatness is tied up very closely with its American-ness. With this brilliant experimental documentary, self-styled hobo film-maker Daniel places himself firmly in the bootprints of Jack London, Jack Kerouac, Walt Whitman, Woody Guthrie - a fine, long tradition of American artists who look for their inspiration to the marginal, the underclass, the vagabond and the outcast. Nominally a chronicle/survey/history of boxcar graffiti (a tradition as old as the railroad itself) and the men who create it, *Who Is Bozo Texino?* soon transcends its narrow subject-matter to become a gloriously rough-edged elegy for an America which is being swept away before our eyes.

For over 10 years, Daniel filmed his travels on freight trains and through rail yards across North America, meeting countless men who are proud to ascribe to a lifestyle as a hobo. Far from being “bums,” these men live by a code of ethics in which they use what resources are available, do honest work when they need to, and help each other out, often communicating through informational graffiti. As part of their pride, most hobos have a tag, a nickname and a symbol they scrawl in grease pencil on the walls of the trains they inhabit. One of the most prolific yet enigmatic of all the hobo signatures is that of Bozo Texino. In this gorgeously filmed documentary, Bill Daniel takes us on a search for a little known American legend, and illustrates a little understood American way of life.

Also Playing:

Ghost Towns of Arizona (Robert Greene | New York, NY | 7:00)

A mysterious and lovely history of the American desert, past, present and future.

At the Quinte Hotel (Bruce Alcock | Toronto, ON | 4:00)

A delightful animated interpretation of a poem by the legendary poet Al Purdy, recited by Purdy himself in one of his life's last recordings.

Smitten (Nancy Kelly | Greenbrae, CA | 27:00)

A love story about art. 85-year-old Rene di Rosa is an unusual art collector whose goal is neither about interior decorating nor increasing social status, but about the pure joy of discovery. Rene's collection is considered the largest and most notable collection of Northern California art in America.

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