

THE FILMS

SILVERLAKE LIFE: The View From Here is a highly personal film which traces the journey towards death of filmmaker Tom Joslin and his companion of 22 years, Mark Massi, both of whom are stricken with AIDS. Largely videotaped by Joslin and Massi themselves and completed by their friend, director Peter Friedman, the film captures the everyday realities of living with AIDS. Newsweek: "This painful but bracingly frank film is a testament to an extraordinary relationship, a love story *in extremis*." (85 minutes)

LAST CALL AT MAUD'S is a lively and loving documentary that weaves together two parallel narratives. One is an anecdotal history of San Francisco's most popular lesbian bar, which flourished from 1966 to 1989; the other, going back to the 1940's, is a wider-ranging story of the struggle for gay civil rights as viewed from a West Coast lesbian perspective. With Jan Oxenberg's autobiographical short **HOME MOVIES** (Entire program 84 minutes)

JOHANNA D'ARC OF MONGOLIA is German director Ulrike Ottinger's epic adventure tracing a fantastic encounter between two different worlds. Seven European women of varying backgrounds are riding the Trans-Siberian railroad when they are kidnapped by a band of Mongol horsewomen and are abducted to the plains of Inner Mongolia. The Los Angeles Times: "Wickedly delightful...sophisticated, mysterious, and deliriously beautiful." (165 minutes)

SALUT VICTOR, by French-Canadian director Anne Claire Poirier, is a delicate and affecting story of late-in-life romance. Longtime loner Philippe checks into a nursing home, ready to die; but resident rebel Victor, who is gay, incites him to optimism with delinquent adventures. The San Francisco Examiner: "A superior film with subtle emotional shadings and fine performances by the two leading men." (83 minutes)

TIME OFF is the first Israeli film to deal seriously with homosexuality in the military. Set at the outbreak of the 1982 Lebanese war, it is the story of Yonathan, a young man coming to grips with his sexuality and his identity as a soldier. The Bay Area Reporter: "A brisk, no fat narrative that questions Israel's unflinching masculinity." (45 minutes) Plus **NIGHT OUT**, a sensitive Australian film that focuses on a crisis in one couple's relationship: one partner takes a "night out" to cruise and runs afoul of gay-bashers. (50 minutes)

TOGETHER ALONE, a triumphant first feature for P.J. Castellana, is an epic conversation between two men who have gone home together for a one-night stand. Beautifully shot on one set, in black and white, the film captures the thrill, alienation, and vulnerability of a chance encounter. It presents one of the most honest, realistic, and intimate conversations between gay men ever to appear on screen. With Bruce Weber's short **BACKYARD MOVIE**. (Entire program 95 minutes)

ORANGES ARE NOT THE ONLY FRUIT is adapted by Jeanette Winterston from her autobiographical novel and directed by Beeban Kidron (**ANTONIA AND JANE**) as a BBC film. It tells the moving and often funny story of the coming out of the teenage girl Jess amid the trials of growing up in a strictly religious North England home. The film begins with the 7-year-old Jess, whose parents are raising her to be missionary, and takes her to young adulthood. Will she be strong enough to fend for herself, or will she succumb to the pressures of her family, her pastor, and her congregation? (160 minutes)

DADDY AND THE MUSCLE ACADEMY is subtitled "The Art, Life, and Times of Tom of Finland." "Tom" is one of the gay world's few authentic icons, whose provocative, hypermasculine drawings have had an enormous influence on gay identity. Finnish director Ilppo Pohjola tells the story of Tom's life, from childhood in rural Finland to his success in the United States; there are interviews with Tom (who died last year at age 71) and his leather-bound fans and many of Tom's original drawings. Also **TIME EXPIRED** with John Leguziamo. (Entire program 75 minutes)

THANK GOD I'M A LESBIAN is an uplifting and entertaining Canadian documentary about the diversity of lesbian identities. Writers Sarah Schulman, Dionne Brand and Nicole Brossard, musician Lee Pui Ming, and many other prominent women speak frankly and articulately about issues such as coming out, racism, bisexuality, S & M, outing, and lesbian literature. Variety called it "a snappy, intelligent spiefest...a vigorous affirmation of lesbian sexuality." With two humorous shorts **ROSEBUD** and **CAME OUT, IT RAINED, WENT BACK IN AGAIN**. (Entire program 85 minutes)

FORBIDDEN LOVE: THE UNASHAMED STORIES OF LESBIAN LIVES takes its cue from lesbian pulp novels of the 50's and 60's. The Canadian film by Aerlyn Weissman and Lynne Fernie blends deliberately overwrought fiction and intriguing fact (via recollections of nine feisty women who came out during that period) to make a unique mix that has captivated audiences at festivals this year. Variety called it "undeniably compelling...the prevailing mood is that of wry humor and refreshing candor." With Jan Oxenberg's short **A COMEDY IN SIX UNNATURAL ACTS**, a relentless parody of lesbian stereotypes. (Entire program 105 minutes)

Ticket Prices

Entire series ticket \$30

Saturday or Sunday All Day Ticket \$15

Single admission \$5

Please note: Series and day tickets are non-transferable. Savoy membership is not valid for the festival. No advance sales for single admissions



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