

Science vs Art

Sunday 16th September 19:00

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**How cooperation (eventually) trumps
conflict** 19:22 Robert Wright
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High Falls 33.00 Andrew Zuckerman
- 21.00 **Eno Go Home** Tor Kristensen
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Dawkins
Ballistic Jaw Propulsion of Trap-Jaw Ants
3.39 Scientific Discovery
A 10th Dimension 11.50 Rob Bryanton
Heavy Metal Drummer 6.00 Toby MacDonald &
Luke Morris
Death of a Hen 5.00 Brian Dewan

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Wholphin

“Wholphin is a new quarterly DVD magazine from McSweeney's, lovingly encoded with unique and ponderable films designed to make you feel the way we felt when we learned that dolphins and whales sometimes, you know, do it.”

“Available immediately by subscription each issue of Wholphin will contain a variety of extraordinary short films, docs, instructional videos, foreign sitcoms, and other cinema hybrids that deserve to be seen on very expensive televisions.”

We're very grateful for the support and encouragement of Wholephin's Editor, Brent Hoff, in the arrangement of this night. A lot more information about what he does can be found at www.wholphindvd.com

Are you the favourite person of anybody? Miguel Arteta (direction) Miranda July (script)

“I had just finished shooting Me and You... I felt like I was in so deep with this movie stuff that I was never going to write another short story ever again. But then I wrote these three dialogues, and even though they weren't too substantial, I felt relieved that I had produced something somewhat literary. I read them to Miguel, and he said, "I want to shoot it this weekend." I read them through and saw that I had indeed written something more like a script than a short story.

“Miguel also cast me and I was thrilled at the prospect of just being an actress, after writing, directing, and acting in Me and You. I remember walking away from John C. Reilly at the end of my scene and wondering if I was off camera yet. But no one yelled cut and I said to myself, "I'm just an actress, I'm gonna keep on walking until someone tells me to stop." I walked practically to the next neighborhood before anyone noticed I was gone. And when my scene was done, I left, which was a great feeling.” – Miranda July

“I love Miranda's writing. She told me that as a girl, when strangers passed her by in the street, she would picture herself as that person and then ask herself, in that stranger's voice, "Am I someone's favorite person?" This script is gorgeous because it makes you wonder, what is your story? What is the quality of the relationships that define you? After years of having my head up my ass, due to living and working in LA these questions were a welcome gift.” – Miguel Arteta

Me and You and Everyone We Know, the debut feature-length film by Miranda July, won the Caméra d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival (2005). Miguel Arteta is best known for his independent film Chuck & Buck (2000). www.mirandajuly.com

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Kitchen

Alice Winocour

“The starting point of the film is a short story by Roald Dahl, called Lamb to the slaughter which is about a woman who kills her husband with a frozen leg of lamb... But when I started thinking about a woman who fantasises about killing her husband, I couldn't identify with the violence and murder. The action of killing in a short movie can be hard to believe. I was more interested in insidious and perverse violence: one contained and withheld, and part of the bourgeois world.

“I think that rage and revolt are the most common emotional responses for unsatisfied humans. However, I believe that these feelings can also result in an inner struggle, as in the case of Elina. Her desperate effort to kill the two lobsters is a metaphor for her struggle with her own demons. In taking action and killing them, she allows herself to escape from the prison of her own kitchen. She's free to march toward her destiny..

“At the time I was going through a difficult break-up. When the film was finished, I realised that the story was also about the difficulty of killing something that is still alive – like my relationship.” – Alice Winocour

The Writer

Carson Mell

Wholphin: Why do you make films?

Carson Mell: For fun and profit.

Q: What? You make money from short films?

CM: There's been no money so far, but I have faith that the profit is forthcoming.

Q: Where did the inspiration for this film come from?

CM: In the case of The Writer, I wanted to draw some monsters, but not just have them sit around on my drawing board.

Q: So you were interested in wretched lives of pathetic writers as a child?

CM: Subconsciously, I believe all children are. www.carsonmell.com

High Falls

Andrew Zuckerman (direction) Alex Vlack (screenplay)

“(The film) wasn't inspired by real events or based on anything real. We wanted to explore the idea of trust and communication in a relationship, and we didn't want to make it a bummer. So dead dogs and hand jobs seemed relatable without being too tragic... April's transgression was not in killing the dog, but in not telling Pedro about it. In fact, neither act is terribly important; it's the way the characters deal with it that matters... Why can't they talk to each other? ” – Andrew Zuckerman and Alex Vlack

Alex Vlack and Andrew Zuckerman run the creative agency Late Night and Weekends. The first project that they worked on was High Falls. Along

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with the film, they also published a book (Late Night Press) of a series of photographs Andrew made of the actors, in character, but not within the time of the film itself. www.latenightandweekends.com

Ballistic Jaw Propulsion of Trap-Jaw Ants **Encyclopedia Pictura**

The trap-jaw ant has a pair of jagged scythes growing from its head that, when triggered by tiny hairs, can smash down at 145 cricket-decapitating miles an hour. The motion pushes the boundaries of physics and often causes the ants to do an odd thing not unlike flying". It would be like a human using its mouth to propel itself 40 feet up in the air or 120 feet horizontally.

Heavy Metal Drummer **Toby MacDonald and Luke Morris**

"We came across the story for fourteen metal heads who'd been arrested and tried in Casablanca for moral and religious crimes – essentially, wearing Metallica t-shirts and having a penchant for death metal. They'd been put in jail for a while, but there were demonstrations that embarrassed the legal system into releasing them early.

"We loved the idea of metal in the Arab world and went out to Casablanca to meet some of the guys... We shot the film in three days in Morocco and cast almost all the actors from the street, often the night before shooting. Our lead, Yassine, came in to audition and played an acoustic version of Metallica's *Nothing else matters* – they lyrics to which were the only English he knew. We cast him immediately." – Luke Morris

Grimm's Tales 2: Death Of The Hen **Brian Dewan**

"The story is a very old folktale. The Grimms' collection was called Household Tales. [it] doesn't concern itself with instructing you, but it chronicles a flurry of activity, mostly futile, until at least each of the animals (and the stone, the straw and the coal) meet their demise, leaving no one to mourn." – Brian Dewan

Brian Dewan is an artist whose vision takes form equally well in many media, including art, music, audio-visual performances, decorative painting, furniture design, poetry and musical instrument design.

TED

TED stands for Technology, Entertainment, Design. It started out as a conference bringing together people from those three worlds. Since then its scope has become ever broader.

The annual conference now brings together the world's most fascinating thinkers and doers, who are challenged to give the talk of their lives (in 18 minutes). TED.com makes these talks available online.

Robert Wright: How cooperation (eventually) trumps conflict

Author Robert Wright explains “non-zero-sumness,” a game-theory term describing how players with linked fortunes tend to cooperate for mutual benefit. This dynamic has guided our biological and cultural evolution, he says -- but our unwillingness to understand one another, as in the clash between the Muslim world and the West, will lead to all of us losing the “game.” Once we recognize that life is a non-zero-sum game, in which we all must cooperate to succeed, it will force us to see that moral progress — a move toward empathy — is our only hope.
www.nonzero.org

Stefan Sagmeister: Yes, design can make you happy

Analyzing a list of things that have made him happy, graphic designer Stefan Sagmeister realized that almost half of the items were in some way related to design. In this intensely personal talk, he shares the details of some of those moments, and gives props to three artists whose work has had a positive impact on his world. Concluding with some examples of his own work, Sagmeister offers a real insight into his aesthetic and philosophy of work -- and life.
www.sagmeister.com

Richard Dawkins: An atheist's call to arms

The session was titled "The Design of Life," and the TED audience was probably expecting remarks about evolution's role in our history from biologist Richard Dawkins. Instead, he launched into a full-on appeal for atheists to make public their beliefs and to aggressively fight the incursion of religion into politics and education. Scientists and intellectuals hold very different beliefs about God from the American public, he says, yet they are cowed by the overall political environment. Dawkins' scornful tone drew strongly mixed reactions from the audience; some stood and applauded his courage. Others wondered whether his strident approach could do more harm than good. Dawkins went on to publish *The God Delusion* and become perhaps the world's best-known atheist.
<http://richarddawkins.net>

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Tor Kristensen : Eno go Home

Tor Kristensen is a Danish/American artist, who grew up in Alaska, lives in København, attended the Savannah College of Art and Design, helped launch Denmark's largest privately owned web design company (Araneum), produced designs for some of Denmark's largest public institutions and private companies, has received awards from DTP and Reboot (among others), judged the 2002 Thesis Show for IMMA, runs seminars on multimedia design, and has been creating photographs for more than 10 years.

www.bespoke.org

Rob Bryanton : Imagining the Tenth Dimension

Rob Bryanton is a Canadian author and composer best known for his first book, *Imagining the Tenth Dimension*. In his book, he discusses many different topics, most notably his new, simplified approach to conceiving the ten dimensions. The book has eleven chapters, which cover a wide variety of topics, from string theory to philosophical questions such as "How much control do we have?"

Whether you agree with the philosophy behind this or not, it's a great example in both scaling ideas and clean, simple presentations.

www.tenthdimension.com