



24th Annual Dallas Video Fest opens Sept. 21, 2011 with *Film Socialisme* by Jean-Luc Godard at Texas Theatre

Dallas, TX – Video Fest 24 will open Wednesday, Sept. 21 at 7 p.m. at The Texas Theatre, 231 W. Jefferson Blvd. The opening program will be a screening of the latest film by one of the most influential filmmakers of all time, Jean-Luc Godard, called *Film Socialisme*. Also on the opening night lineup is the screening of *Slacker 2011-A Re-Imagining of Richard Linklater's Slacker* at 9 p.m. In addition some *Slacker Dallas* entries will be shown. Tickets are \$9 per film at the door or online at videofest.org. Video Fest continues through Sept. 25 at the Angelika Film Center at Mockingbird Station, 5321 E. Mockingbird Ln. Call 214-428-8700 for information or visit <http://dallasvideofest.festivalgenius.com/2011/films>.

Film Socialisme is Godard's first film shot in HD video and the 16:9 aspect ratio, as well as his first in several decades not to be photographed with an intended aspect ratio of 4:3. Though Godard was one of the first major directors to shoot and edit on video, and has incorporated video footage and editing into most of his work since the mid-1970s, this is the first theatrical release from him to be shot entirely in a digital format. As with many of his films, Godard's partner Anne-Marie Miéville worked on the film, other people credited as collaborators being Fabrice Aragno and Louma Sanbar, who also have worked with Godard before.

Film Socialisme is composed of three movements:

- The first movement, *Des choses comme ça* ("Such things") is set on a cruise ship, featuring multi-lingual conversations among a medley collection of passengers. Characters include an aging war criminal, a former United Nations official and a Russian detective.
- The second movement, *Notre Europe* ("Our Europe"), involves a pair of children, a girl and her younger brother, summoning their parents to appear before the "tribunal of their childhood", demanding serious answers on the themes of liberty, equality, and fraternity.
- The final movement, *Nos humanités* ("Our humanities") visits six legendary sites: Egypt, Palestine, Odessa, Hellas, Naples, and Barcelona.

The cruise ship is the *Costa Serena*, sailing around the Mediterranean Sea.

Richard Linklater's *Slacker* inspired a generation of American filmmakers by exploring the subculture of Austin, Texas in a loose narrative with a tapestry of quirky characters. Celebrating the 20th anniversary of that iconic movie, 24 of Austin's top filmmakers banded together to update *Slacker* with their own perspectives on the city. *Slacker 2011* is a stream-of-consciousness chronicle of a day in Austin, presenting the city-dwellers, drag worms, proto-hipsters and locations that give the city its modern identity. The film showcases a transformed town next to things that never change. *Slacker 2011* is a homage to 20 years of independent filmmaking, presenting the city's changing face and showcasing some of its most exciting talent.



Other Highlights of this year's Video Fest include:

The winner of the "Silence The Opera Singer" for Angelika theaters nationwide;
The winner of *D Magazine's* "Dallas Stories" competition;
The winners of the 24 Hour Video Race;
The winner of 8th Annual Albert Mayles Award for an emerging documentarian;
The winner of DVF Awards for narrative feature, narrative short, experimental, documentary feature, documentary short, animation and other;
The Texas Show, a juried compilation of short film and video by Texas artists;
Guts N Glory, a live performance event;
Siggraph Electronic Theater, the best selections from computer graphics event;
The London International Advertising Awards, the best commercials;
Ipad demo of William Joyce's *The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore*;
Workshops for filmmakers

The Video Association of Dallas is the presenter of Video Fest 24. Media support is provided by Art & Seek, D Magazine and Arts + Culture DFW, You+Media, Let's Talk Productions and Brainfood. Sponsors are Texas Commission on the Arts, Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs, AMS Pictures, Dallas Producers Association, KD College, Alford Media Services, Freeman, Dallas Audio Post, and Texas Film Commission, and Dallas Film Commission.

ABOUT VIDEO FEST

Video Fest is now the oldest and largest video festival in the United States, and continues to garner critical and popular acclaim. Since 1986, Video Fest has specialized in independent, alternative, and non-commercial media, presenting hard-to-find works rarely seen on television, in movie theaters, or elsewhere, despite their artistic excellence and cultural and social relevance. Even in a Web 2.0 environment where everything is seemingly available on the Internet, the Video Fest provides curatorial guidance, a critical voice in the wilderness navigating the vast and diverse landscape of media, helping to interpret its cultural and artistic significance. The event still provides a communal environment for real-time, face-to-face dialogue between makers and audiences.

ABOUT VIDEO ASSOCIATION OF DALLAS

The mission of the Video Association is to promote an understanding of video as a creative medium and cultural force in our society, and to support and advance the work of Texas artists working in video and the electronic arts. The Video Association of Dallas (VAD) is a 501(c)(3) organization incorporated on April 25, 1989. It began in 1986 as a weekend event, "Video As A Creative Medium", presented at the Dallas Museum of Art by independent curators Barton Weiss and John Held. That first event, which included two nights of video by selected local and national video artists, was a great popular success, which led to the founding of the Dallas Video Festival (DVF) in 1987. Video Association of Dallas presents the 24 Hour Video Race, The Program at Conduit Gallery, the Texas Tour, the Youth Media Jam, Three Star Cinema, Rock n Reel, college showcases and other programs throughout the year.

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