

**9th Annual Sarasota Film Festival**

**April 13-22, 2007**

<http://www.sarasotafilmfestival.com> or call (866) 575-FILM or (941) 366-6200

**Films with an African-American Interest:**

**Dare Not Walk Alone**

**Director: Jeremy Dean**

**USA/ 79 Min**

Today, the beaches of St. Augustine teem with locals and tourists who come to enjoy one of Florida's most beautiful coasts. Forty years ago, the same beach was the site of crucial civil rights demonstrations that many believe to be the impetus for the Civil Rights Act. *Dare Not Walk Alone* combines history with personal testimony to depict the turbulent months when African-American Floridians bravely applied civil disobedience to fight for equal rights. In a moving march from past to present, the film champions the heroes of the 60's while shedding light on the inequalities that continue to challenge Floridians.

**Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> 8:00 pm / Theater 12**

**Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> 1:15 pm / Theater 8**

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**Ghosts of Cité Soleil**

**Director: Asger Leth**

**Producers: Jerry Duplessis, George Hickenlooper, Wyclef Jean, Seth Kanegis, Jørgen Leth, Kim Magnusson, Cary Woods**

**Cast: Winson '2Pac' Jean, Wyclef Jean**

**Denmark/ USA/ 85 Min**

The Cité Soleil is the most dangerous of Haiti's Port-au-Prince slums. The Cité is home to the Chimères, gangsters who rule the neighborhood but move like ghosts, invisible to law and governed society. The Lavalas government views the area as a breeding ground for thugs who are infamous for running terror campaigns in support of Aristide. Leading the Chimères are two powerful young men, 2pac and Bily, who are intent on reigning Cité Soleil but still dream of escaping Haiti and the vicious cycles of violence they've come to know. *Ghost of Cité Soleil* is a rare view into the ill-fated lives of two hopeful young people and the virtual no man's land they inhabit.

**Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm / Theater 11**

**Wednesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> 4:00 pm / Theater 12**

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**The Hip Hop Project**

**Director: Matt Ruskin**

**Executive Producer: Bruce Willis**

**USA/ 88 Min**

*The Hip Hop Project* is the dynamic and inspirational story of a group of New York City teenagers who transform their life stories into powerful works of art, using hip hop as a vehicle for self-development and personal discovery. The film traces the evolution of this award-winning outreach program developed by Kazi, a formerly homeless teenager turned youth mentor. After four years of collaboration, the group produced a powerful and thought-provoking album that

provides a revealing look at their lives. In contrast to all of the negative attention focused on hip hop and rap music, this is a story of hope, healing and the realization of dreams.

**Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> 2:15 pm / Theater 7**

**Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> 8:45 pm / Theater 11**

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### **Revolution '67**

**Director: Marylou Tibaldo-Bongiorno**

**Producer: Marylou Tibaldo-Bongiorno**

**USA/ 83 Min**

In the summer of 1967, the city of Newark, New Jersey, erupted in a series of riots throughout the African-American community. In *Revolution '67*, Marylou Tibaldo-Bongiorno tells the story of these devastating riots from multiple perspectives: the leaders of the struggle for economic justice in the African-American community, the primarily white activists (including SDS founder Tom Harkin) who moved into Newark to organize for change, and local officials and law enforcement officers who battled for control of Newark's streets. A sobering look at the unexpected impact of the riots on the future of this and other urban communities across America, *Revolution '67* is a powerful story of a community transformed.

**Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> 5:30 pm / Theater 9**

**Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup> 9:15 pm / Theater 9**

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### **Dreams of Dust**

**Director: Laurent Salgues**

**Cast: Makena Diop, Rasmane Ouedraggo, Souleymane Souré**

**Burkina Faso/ Canada/ France/ 86 Min**

Mocktar, a Malian peasant, relocates to Burkina Faso hoping to make a bit of money in the goldmines. He arrives at the mines of Essakane, where everyone is a transient and dreams to get rich on a nugget from the dustbowl in order to build a life elsewhere. Mocktar realizes that he's not the only one among the migrating multitude who carries a sad history to Essakane. Capturing the beautiful light of the desert and intimately portraying the ardor and tedium of labor-filled days, *Dreams of Dust* is the story of a motley group that forms a temporary community in an attempt to restore hope for one another.

**Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> 12:30 pm / Theater 7**

**Wednesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> 9:30 pm / Theater 9**

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### **Heavens Fall**

**Director: Terry Green**

**Executive Producers: Page Ostrow, Norman Twain**

**Cast: Timothy Hutton, David Strathairn, Anthony Mackie, Leelee Sobieski**

**USA/ 105 Min**

In Terry Green's historical drama *Heavens Fall*, New York attorney Sam Leibowitz (Timothy Hutton) travels to the Scottsboro, Alabama, in 1933 to defend nine young black men convicted of raping two white women on an Alabama

freight train. The ‘Scottsboro Boys’ had been wrongly convicted and sentenced to death in the electric chair, and as Leibowitz arrives to defend his clients at a re-trial, their story has shaken the international human rights movement to its core. A stirring reminder of the frailties of the American justice system and the history of racial segregation in our country, *Heavens Fall* presents a powerful case for the judicial reforms that re-shaped our legal system.

**Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm / Theater 7**

**Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm / Theater 7**

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**Great World of Sound**

**Director: Craig Zobel**

**Genre: Drama**

**USA/ 106 Min**

**Cast: Kene Holliday, Barlow Jacobs, Robert Longstreet**

**Executive Producers: Matt Chapman, Daniela Taplin Lundberg**

**Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 4:30 pm**

**Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 PM**

Work is work, and so when Martin is hired as a small time music producer at the *Great World of Sound*, he expects to suffer the daily grind. But the ins and outs of working for commission as a so-called producer pose some new challenges, and Martin even surprises himself when he is pitching fame and fortune to hundreds of amateur artists, asking them to fork over cash to jumpstart their music careers. But everyone seems to be buying it; and Martin, along with his charismatic partner, Clarence, is tied up in the excitement of success until he begins to realize just how shady the enterprise might be.