

VINEYARD GAZETTE

Archived Edition: Tuesday, July 13, 2010

Kid Critic Says Shorts are Long on Entertainment

Gone are the grownup gatekeepers of movie merit — kids are the audience for the weekly Cinema Circus films. So the Gazette and the Martha's Vineyard Film Festival bring you the big view from the smaller viewers, with our weekly kid critics.

Today Gabe Merkel reviews each of the films in Go Your Own Way , the program of shorts which screens (along with plenty of larger-than-life children's activities — jugglers, face painters, unicyclists, clowns, stilt walkers, live music, arts and crafts, popcorn, Scottish Bakehouse pizza, and special guests PigPen Theatre Company) on Wednesday, July 14, at 5 p.m. at the Chilmark Community Center. General admission is \$10, or join the festival; it's \$5 for members.



Gabe Merkel.

It's a prelude to dinner and a movie for the grownups.

The theme of this week's short films is Go Your Own Way. Most of the shorts feature characters in an adventure. I also noticed that many of the shorts have characters with wings. Below I have reviewed five shorts. All of them were amazing, but I found these to be the most entertaining.

Crank Balls

Crank Balls, directed by Devin Bell, is a hilarious film in which three green alien creatures turn from grumpy to happy. The colors in this claymation film are bright, saturated and amazing, and the film itself will crack you up ... It turns out that there is better stuff to do than draw tally marks.

Lost and Found

This film, directed by Philip Hunt, is about a penguin who finds a boy. At first,

the boy tries to ditch the penguin, but he has too much heart to do it. So the boy decides to return the penguin to the South Pole. The rest of the film is about the adventures the boy and the penguin have trying to bring the penguin home. The characters are cute and lovable, and the relationship between them will warm your heart.

Forming Game

Forming Game, directed by Malcolm Sutherland, is a short but good film about hands, which started with a white square that broke into pieces and ended up as a living creature. The film is mostly black and white, with a few bits of pale orange. And maybe if you try hard you can make something cool out of a square.

When Apples Roll

When Apples Roll, directed by Reinis Kalnaellis, is a film about a cat who finds an egg while she is collecting fallen apples. The egg quickly hatches and what was in the egg becomes friends with a mouse. The scenery in the film is beautiful with bright colors and great detail. As the film ends, the creature that occupies the egg realizes that she would rather be with her own kind than with a cat and mouse.

Bird on the Wire

Bird on the Wire, directed by Ross Klettke, is a hilarious film about a bird that is sitting on a wire, pooping. Under the bird is a man who is eating a sandwich. The close-ups in this film are great. If you ever eat a sandwich outside, be sure to check if there is a bird above you first.