



**RENDEZVOUS
WITH MADNESS**
FILM FESTIVAL
NOVEMBER 4 – 12, 2016



**RENDEZVOUS
WITH MADNESS**
FILM FESTIVAL
NOVEMBER 4 – 12, 2016



**RENDEZVOUS
WITH MADNESS**
FILM FESTIVAL
NOVEMBER 4 – 12, 2016

For Immediate Release: October 21, 2016

**24th RENDEZVOUS WITH MADNESS Film Festival returns
November 4-12, 2016 with its boldest, most eclectic and
provocative programming yet.**

Canada’s original festival devoted to movies about mental health and recovery will venture onto the new frontier of public awareness toward the mysteries of the human mind - offering audiences an opportunity to watch films inspired by recovery and engage in dialogue with filmmakers, professionals and people with lived experience.

Literally, the mind reels.

Themes, Subjects, Issues examined in feature and short films include: LGBTQ, Gender, Human Rights, Advocacy, Alienation, Sexuality, Recovery, Trauma, Depression, Family, Gaming, True Crime, Institutional Life, Treatment, Child and Youth, Anxiety, Dementia, Autism, Relationships, Intergenerational Trauma, Filmmaking, Art, Artists, Psychotherapy, Psychiatry, Alcoholism and oh-so many more!!!

VENUES: Revue Cinema, Art Gallery of Ontario, Workman Arts Theatre

TICKETS: NOW ON SALE

PRICES For Film Programs: \$12/general
(limited pay what you can tickets at the door only for those on fixed incomes)

\$15 opening night film / \$35 with pre-film reception

FULL DAY-BY-DAY SCHEDULE of films/events at:
<http://www.rendezvouswithmadness.ca/2016-schedule>

TICKETS AVAILABLE at:
<http://www.eventbrite.ca/o/rendezvous-with-madness-film-festival-11831524960>

World, International, North American, Canadian and Toronto PREMIERES of 18 – count ‘em – 18!!! ALL NEW challenging, disturbing, inspiring, informative, exciting, deeply moving and downright entertaining FEATURE FILMS, designed to focus on all matters of madness – here, there, on home turf, abroad, then, now and maybe, just maybe, providing a snapshot into the *future* of mental health issues.

Feature Film Highlights Include:

- The Toronto Premiere of Joey Klein’s first feature SXSW hit *The Other Half* is with Tatiana (*Orphan Black*) Maslany and Tom (*Downton Abbey*) Cullen, slugging it out against the backdrop of those all-too-familiar love-couple Walpurgisnachts of baggage purging.
- The Toronto Premiere of *I, Olga Hepnarova*, the sexy, scary and heartbreaking dramatic depiction (in gorgeous monochrome and astonishing period detail, no less) of Czechoslovakia’s last recipient of capital punishment during the repression of the post-Dubcek thaw and her slow-burn descent into murderous madness: gunning a big ole’ semi down a crowded Prague sidewalk.
- The World Premiere of Steve Sanguedolce’s *Land of Not Knowing*, the courageous experimental documentary focusing on how the role suicide (and recurring thoughts thereof) has played into the lives and creative work of artists.
- The North American Premiere of Konrad Szolajski’s *The Battle With Satan*, a documentary focusing on the winning combination of the Polish Roman Catholic Church addressing extreme mental health issues amongst teenage girls via – you guessed it – exorcism.
- The Canadian Premiere of *Wild* by Nicollete Krebitz which offers the perverse dramatic equation of Babe Office Drone (Lilith Stangenberg) + Wolf (we kid you not) = Sparks-a-flying like they’ve seldom flown before. A staggering portrait of social disenfranchisement leading to something darker and more disturbing.

“Cool” is the operative word in this 24th edition of RENDEZVOUS WITH MADNESS! Other Cooler-than-cool MADNESS features include:

- *Wizard Mode* (pinball meets autism)
- *4 Kings* (a Christmas Story in psychiatric juvie)
- *A Family Affair* (a nonagenarian granny’s deepest, darkest secrets plumbed)
- *Ken Foster* (schizophrenic crack addict creates art on Vancouver’s mean streets)
- *The Spiderweb House* (childhood fantasies morph into the decidedly sinister)
- *The Business of Recovery* (when profits are at stake, why eliminate addiction?)
- *My Name is Emily* (normal is relative and relatives are *never* normal)
- *Krishna* (Thanksgiving forgiveness proves elusive)
- *Liberation: The User’s Guide* (Siberian asylum impedes orphans’ mental health)
- *The World on a Couch* (unorthodox psychiatric practices offer healing)
- *A Very Ordinary Citizen* (selective dementia evolves into the deeply sinister)
- *Sick* (to be young and gay in Croatia is to be deemed mentally ill)
- *Screenagers* (the sinister domination of smartphones in the lives of teens)

- **SCREENER LINKS and MEDIA QUERIES:**
- **Greg Klymkiw**
- rwmadnesspr@gmail.com

In addition to the aforementioned feature films, audiences can look forward to a bevy of short films and exciting new forums/activities on mental health issues in video games.

PLAY GAMES FOR FREE!!!

EXTRAORDINARY MIND GAMES: A RENDEZVOUS WITH MADNESS ARCADE

Go **boldly** where gaming has never gone before at the RENDEZVOUS WITH MADNESS **Extraordinary Mind Games Arcade!** This curated series of artfully constructed experimental **video games** explores aspects of **mental health** or **addiction** and has been created by game makers with lived experience. Developed in collaboration with Workman Arts and the Hand Eye Society, join us in **playing**, sharing and meeting the makers who are **expanding** the limits of what videogames can be.

WHEN: Saturday, November 12, 3:30 PM – 7 PM

WHERE: Workman Theatre, 651 Dufferin Street

PRICES: FREE

GAME CHANGE:

A RENDEZVOUS WITH MADNESS FORUM

The **human brain** has always loved a game. But it has never responded quite the way it has to **games** in the **digital** era. Games now captivate and engage our minds like never before, and this has generated questions concerning the **impact** of these distractions on the way we think, interpret and relate to the world around us. Some say gaming is a potent **addiction**, while others insist it is a potentially **revolutionary** way of providing order and inspiration to the disordered mind. The RENDEZVOUS WITH MADNESS film festival presents GAME/CHANGE, a forum on the **impact and implications of gaming on mental health** and our processing of the world around us. Co-presented with some of the most innovative experts in the field of gaming and mental health, GAME/CHANGE will **transform** the way you **think** about the **games** people **play**.

And *why* they play them.

Moderator **Sarah Saucier** (Founder/CEO of Every1Games Professional Services Inc.) leads **Al Donato** (journalist, ex-carny, and community organizer), **Kaitlin Tremblay** (writer, editor, and game maker) and **Marishka Zachariah** (game developer, teacher, 2D & 3D artist & animator, open-source hardware hacker and performance artist) in this scintillating, inspiring and info-packed forum.

WHEN: Saturday, November 12, 10 AM – 4 PM **WHERE:** Workman Theatre, 651 Dufferin Street **PRICES:** \$25 admission (full day) \$15 admission for students, arts workers, under employed (full day)

DAMES MAKING GAMES: NO JAM

DMG's fourth annual No Jam event, in partnership with Rendezvous With Madness, is two intensive days aimed at those interested in DIY games or expanding their with play. The jam kicks off **Wednesday, November 2** with lightning talks, a hands-on intro to game design concepts, game jam tips, a technical tutorial, participant meet/greets and team-forming. Over **November 5-6**, participants will create games with DMG mentors offering expert assistance. **Location:** Gamma Space Collaborative Studio, 862 Richmond Street West, Suite 100

- Registration opens October 7 at <http://dmg.to/events/no-jam-4>
- The jam is free and open to members of DMG and Workman Arts.
- No experience or skills are required to participate.
- All ages are welcome, but the content is generally geared toward adults.
- Breakfast and lunch provided on November 5 and 6.
- Transit tokens and loaner computers available.
- The space is accessible to those who rely on assistive devices.

Saturday, November 5 Jam Day 1

10 AM - Doors open

10:30 AM - Kick off, logistics, and mentor introductions

11 AM - Jam starts

1 PM - Lunch

7 PM - Wrap up

Sunday, November 6 Jam Day 2

10 AM - Doors open, jam away!

1 PM - Lunch

7 PM - Wrap up, dinner

8 PM - Presentations

9 PM - Closing remarks

SCREENER LINKS and MEDIA QUERIES: Greg Klymkiw - rwmadnesspr@gmail.com