

The 17th Seattle Polish Film Festival at Siff Cinema

By Seattle Polish Film Festival

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The 17th annual Seattle Polish Film Festival will present over 20 films including the best of this year's feature, independent, student, and animated films from Poland, as well as accompanying guests.

Seattle, WA - The Seattle-Gdynia Sister City Association presents the 17th annual Seattle Polish Film Festival (SPFF). The film festival begins on April 10 and runs for two weeks until April 19, 2009. The SPFF will present over twenty films at SIFF Cinema, located at Seattle Center's McCaw Hall. Tickets range from \$8 to \$10 and can be purchased at the door 20 minutes before the showing or at the website: www.siff.net.

The festival will include feature films, such as "Drowsiness" directed by Magdalena Piekorz (up and coming director and former guest on our festival), "Luiza's Garden" by Tomasz Drozdowicz, "Ideal guy for my girlfriend" by Tomasz Konecki, "Warsaw Dark" by Christopher Doyle, "With a warm heart" by Krzysztof Zanussi, "Hania" by Janusz Kamiński, "Sex change" by Konrad Aksinowicz, "Golden mean" by Olaf Lubaszenko and many more; as well as accompanying guests: Lesław Zurek and Szymon Bobrowski. The SPFF is also proud to present several documentaries such as "Tishner – Life in Stories" and "Commandant Edelman" by Artur Wiecek "Baron" (also former festival guest) and a set of independent and student films.

For film schedules, film synopses, previews, and guest appearances, please visit the SPFF website at: www.polishfilms.org. All films are in Polish with English subtitles, except where otherwise noted.

The SPFF is one of the longest running Polish film festivals in the United States, and the festival stands apart as a result of its innovative programming, which includes the best of this year's feature, independent, student, and animated films from Poland. According to Greg Plichta, the SPFF director: "People can see movies anywhere, and with such a film-savvy community as we have in Seattle, it is not enough to just show films. Thus, we provide a forum where the film-going community can meet filmmakers in person, take pictures, and ask them any questions."

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The Seattle Polish Film Festival is produced by the Seattle-Gdynia Sister City Association (SGSCA), a membership-based, not-for-profit organization. The Festival is staffed entirely by volunteers of the SGSCA. The SGSCA was established in 1993. The mission of SGSCA is to promote educational, cultural, trade and charitable exchanges between the Polish seaport city of Gdynia and the greater Seattle area.

In addition, SGSCA provides financial and material support for social service programs located in Gdynia. The SPFF is one important way the SGSCA accomplishes its mission. The SPFF allows for sharing of Polish history, culture, and cinematic art with the Seattle community. Proceeds from SPFF support Seattle-Gdynia Sister City Association educational exchanges and human service programs in Poland. For more information about SGSCA, please visit www.seattlegdynia.org

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