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Local Artists Kipp Normand and Jonathan Frey to Feature Artwork, Short Film at Heartland Truly Moving Pictures First Friday

Public invited to Feb. 1 free event showcasing Heartland Film Festival Award-winning film.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND. – Self-described “junk artist” Kipp Normand went from the junk yard to the red carpet last October when Indianapolis-based director Jonathan Frey’s documentary film, highlighting the lifestyle and art of Normand, became one of seven Festival Award-winning short films at the 2012 Heartland Film Festival.

“It’s not easy to describe my experience with this film,” explained Normand. “I am sort of a reclusive junk artist. I make sculpture and collage images out of things I find around our city. I spend a lot of time by myself making things out of broken and discarded objects. Last spring my friend Jonathan Frey made a short documentary about me and the work that I make, and I still find this unbelievable. Jonathan is very good at what he does and this documentary is a fine example of his talent. In the film I dig through the trash, putter around in my studio and talk a lot about what art and life mean to me. Jonathan has made these mundane experiences beautiful, and that’s true art.”

Frey, who has been a photographer for years, branched out to movie-making thanks in part to the Normand’s intrigue.

“Initially, like everyone else, I was drawn to Kipp’s trademark beard and glasses,” said Frey. “He looks like someone from a bygone era. You just want to learn more about him. In terms of personality, Kipp is infectious and hospitable. He’s passionate, interesting and ultimately mysterious. I’ve known Kipp for some time now, but I still feel like there’s a lot more to the man that I just don’t know. Capturing his artwork and overall process certainly provided me with a clearer window.”

Heartland Truly Moving Pictures, the nonprofit arts organization that organizes the Annual Heartland Film Festival, will be showing “Kipp Normand” during its monthly First Friday event at its Fountain Square/Murphy Arts Center office. Every First Friday Heartland shows a free short film in its screening room, approximately every 15 minutes, from 6 to 10 p.m. Popcorn, soda, beer and wine are available for purchase.

Both Frey and Normand will be in attendance for the Feb. 1 event.

“Kipp Normand” First Friday at Heartland

“Just to make the screening a little more interesting for the audience on First Friday,” said Normand, “I have been working on a series of images inspired by the odd experience of seeing myself transformed in this film. This new work and a few older pieces will be on display on Feb. 1.”

“I’m looking forward to sharing this film again with the Indianapolis community,” said Frey. “It’s been a humbling experience to see how the city has received it so well. I love having opportunities like this to share the film with a new audience in the Fountain Square neighborhood.”

The Heartland Truly Moving Pictures office is located in the Murphy Arts Center, at 1043 Virginia Ave., Ste. 2, Indianapolis, IN 46203. Free parking is available in the rear of the building and on the building’s surrounding side streets.

To learn more about Heartland Roadshow community screenings, visit TrulyMovingPictures.org.

About Heartland Truly Moving Pictures

Heartland Truly Moving Pictures, a nonprofit arts organization, seeks to inspire filmmakers and audiences through the transformative power of film. Its flagship event, the Heartland Film Festival[®], launched in 1991 and runs each October in Indianapolis, screening independent films from around the world. Each year, the Festival awards more than \$145,000 in cash prizes and presents its Festival Awards to the top-judged submissions. Heartland has awarded more than \$2.5 million to support filmmakers during the last 20 years. The organization’s Truly Moving Picture Award was created to honor films released theatrically that align with Heartland’s mission. By bestowing this award seal to honored films, the award allows studios and distributors to inform audiences of a film’s transformative power and appeal. Heartland is also dedicated to cultivating youth, and thus created the Heartland Institute to provide innovative educational and outreach programs that enrich the minds and lives of youth and aspiring filmmakers. Heartland shares inspiring films year-round throughout the community via the Heartland Roadshow. For more information, visit TrulyMovingPictures.org.

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