



CANYON CINEMA

YOSEMITE PLACE
1777 YOSEMITE AVE, SUITE 210
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94124
415-626-2255

March 22, 2013

Dear Filmmakers of Canyon Cinema,

Greetings from the staff and Board of Canyon Cinema. As you all know this past year has been one of transition; while we are continuing to see a savings of \$5,000 a year from our move to Yosemite Place in the summer of 2011, the reality of continuing to operate at a loss averaging \$9,000 a year as a for-profit distributor has become even clearer.

Thank you for your overwhelming vote approving the transition to nonprofit. Currently our application is under review at the Federal level with the IRS. Once approved, our nonprofit status will be retroactive to the filing date earlier this year. While the day-to-day operations of Canyon shouldn't change much we're working to envision the possible educational, outreach and archival projects that nonprofit status would allow us to seek foundation and other support for. We have a few foundations that have expressed interest in funding our activities once nonprofit status is approved. We should also mention that we are looking for a permanent home, not affected by the volatile commercial San Francisco rental market, the most expensive in the USA. Please contact us if you can be of assistance.

We have been in touch with many of you about the possibility of making your work available with our online viewing partners, Fandor and MUBI. The past 2 years have shown an increase in traffic for our filmmakers whose work appears on both these platforms. If you are interested in providing permission and complete materials (high quality files, bio, synopses, etc.) to upload your work please contact the office for more information. Streaming on Fandor and MUBI is a constant work in progress. The second round has not been delivered to the providers yet; this is largely due to a small number of filmmakers providing the materials. In the past, MUBI's accounts payable have been elusive, however we have successfully received payment for streaming from 2011 last fall and are awaiting payment for 2012. If any filmmaker has questions about the status of their account please contact Denah in the office. If you are a filmmaker who is interested in transferring your work to a digital format but don't currently have the funds or means to do so please let us know. While we do not currently have the capacity or resources to assist with this Canyon is actively communicating with potential funders of such projects.

In 2012 Canyon received \$5,000 from Metabolic Studio, a charitable organization under the Annenberg Foundation for programmatic support for a "Canyon Cinema Presents" screening series. We collaborated with the Exploratorium to curate and present 3 shows centered on learning initiatives implicit in their education's mission: *Play* in October, *Observe* November and *Create* in December. Gunvor Nelson curated a "friends and influences" screening that was presented at New Nothing Cinema in late November and a rare 35MM program was presented at San Francisco MOMA in December. This programming provided further visibility of filmmakers in the collection at a variety of venues. We look forward to the possibility of curating more programs in the future and partnering with these and other organizations. As a nonprofit entity we



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will be able to seek out programmatic support to not only assist with associated costs of screening the work but also to pay the filmmakers for screening of their work.

In January we did an exhaustive physical inventory of over 3,000 prints! This detail-oriented project resulted in updating our database which feeds the website. Please take a moment to review your filmmaker page/bio as well as your print listings. If you have any updates or changes you would like to make or can provide images please email the detailed information to info@canyoncinema.com. We will get to the requests in the order they are submitted. Please note that image updates may take some time, but we will get them up as soon as possible.

Many filmmakers have visited the office in the past 6 months. Recent tours have brought Rose Lowder and Gunvor Nelson to San Francisco along with visits from many friends and colleagues including Sandra Davis, Diane Kitchen, Tyler Turkle, Victor Faccinto and Janis Crystal Lipzin. Jonathan Marlowe of Fandor and Steve Polta of San Francisco Cinematheque have also stopped by to lend their support.

While we maintain our stated purpose to distribute artist's prints on film please remember that if you have transferred your work to a digital format and have DVDs for preview and/or sale we are happy to list and/or hold these as well. In some cases potential renters need to come into the office to preview work, alternate formats can be useful to limit wear to prints.

As many of you know Scott MacDonald spearheaded an initiative last year to rally colleges, museums and other institutions that rent prints frequently from Canyon to pledge an annual Access Fee to help ensure we can continue to provide artist's prints; we are still working on streamlining this program but by Fall it should be fully on track. In the meantime a substantial number of pledges have come in – approximately \$12,000. We are very pleased and thankful to collaborate with these institutions. The core of our distribution work is with repeat customers, many of whom are working within these institutions.

Distribution Fees

By early next week you will be contacted directly if you owe any dues for 2013. Any outstanding dues must be received by **April 17th**. Please note that dues are very important, as they contribute to the cost of storing and maintaining your precious prints!



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Wish List

While some of the items on this list might seem a bit “pie in the sky” it doesn’t hurt to dream! If anyone knows of available items they think might be useful to Canyon please contact Denah with any details. Of course once we have nonprofit status we are happy to document donations so they may be written off on annual taxes.

- Fully stocked toolbox
- Electric Tea Kettle
- Tall filing cabinet
- Pro-bono licensed electrical work
- External hard drive(s)
- Shrinkage Gauge
- 16mm shelving
- Pageant projector(s)
- Mixer and a pair of speakers
- Ikea (or similar) DVD shelves
- Sonic Film Cleaner Cabinet
- Small couch or chair
- Desk or floor lamps (bankers, etc.)
- Fold-up work/banquet table
- Area rug(s)
- Space heater(s)

OR

- A small PA system to optimize the sound in our small screening space

Sincerely,

The Staff and Board or Directors of Canyon Cinema

Denah Johnston, Director of Operations - denah@canyoncinema.com
Antonella Bonfanti, Collection Manager - antonella@canyoncinema.com
Maia Cybelle Carpenter, President
Nathaniel Dorsky, Vice President
Christopher Harris, Member
Dana Plays, Treasurer
Mark Toscano, Secretary
- board@canyoncinema.com



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2013 Board Election:

We currently have two board members up for re-election and ask for your support to continue with the current board during this transition. With these circumstances we present the possibility to allow Nathaniel Dorsky and Christopher Harris (who replaced Denah Johnston when she became an employee) to continue to hold their seats on the Board.

Please take a moment to submit your vote by post (to arrive by April 17th) or email (scanned as PDF or JPG). If you need to fax, please contact us in the office for a different fax #. We have problems with our fax machine.

Remember we must have a quorum for the vote to be effective.

I am **in favor of re-electing** Nathaniel Dorsky and Christopher Harris _____

I am **not in favor of re-electing** Nathaniel Dorsky and Christopher Harris _____

Proxy:

I hereby allow my vote to be counted by proxy in the event that I cannot attend the meeting on April 17th or do not wish to vote above by:

Denah Johnston _____

Maia Cybelle Carpenter _____

Nathaniel Dorsky _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____