

Wednesday, April 15, 2009

CRUISING THE NILE

Speaker: Clint Denn

Egypt and the Nile have long enticed travelers - and our journey with Clint and Sue Denn aboard the MS Tamr Henna is sure to unlock some ancient mysteries in this cradle of civilization. We'll stop in Cairo, a major city since the time of the Pharaohs and still a bustling metropolis; the Egyptian Museum with a treasure trove of King Tutankhamen rarities; Hathor Temple and the only remaining member of the Seven Wonders of the World - the Pyramids of Giza. During our time on the river, sights include Thebes; the Valley of the Kings; the best preserved temple in Egypt, the Temple of Horus at Edfu; and the Aswan Dam. On arrival at the Mediterranean Sea, sights in Alexandria will include Pompey's Pillar, the Catacombs, and the Roman Amphitheater.

Clint Denn is an underwater adventurer, actor, and writer who brings multiple dimensions to the travel film lecture platform. An expert photographic craftsman, he is much praised for the innovative and imaginative quality of his films and is the recipient of many international awards.

Wednesday, April 29, 2009

THE SOUL OF MOROCCO

Speaker: Rick Ray

Imagine the eternal Sahara with its windswept mountains of orange-gold sand, labyrinths that are the medinas of Fez and Marrakech, colorful markets with their fruits, tapestries, and mint tea. There are merchants selling rug kilims and goatskin lamps, and artisans specializing in tile mosaics or brass metalwork, silk slippers, or fragrant spices. This is the Morocco that was, and is. This is the land of the Kasbahs, the ancient desert palaces and forts of legend. This is also a land of high-tech mosques with laser beams that point toward Mecca. Filmmaker Rick Ray takes us on an unforgettable journey through a country that seems both untouched by time and yet is gradually moving through it.

Rick Ray is a vagabond raconteur and talented filmmaker who has visited areas usually closed to Western journalists and camera crews. He has met headhunters in Borneo, lived in a Buddhist monastery, given piano lessons in Bora Bora, ridden the rails in New Zealand, and drunk cod liver oil with Icelanders. Miraculously, during his adventures he has never once lost track of the progress of the Los Angeles Lakers. Rick is the founder of two stock footage companies, and currently teaches documentary filmmaking at the prestigious Brooks Institute in Ventura, California.

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Valid for one admission to either the 2:30 or 7:30 P.M. showing of all ten films. Please send _____ Passports x \$45 = \$ _____ + \$3 = \$ _____

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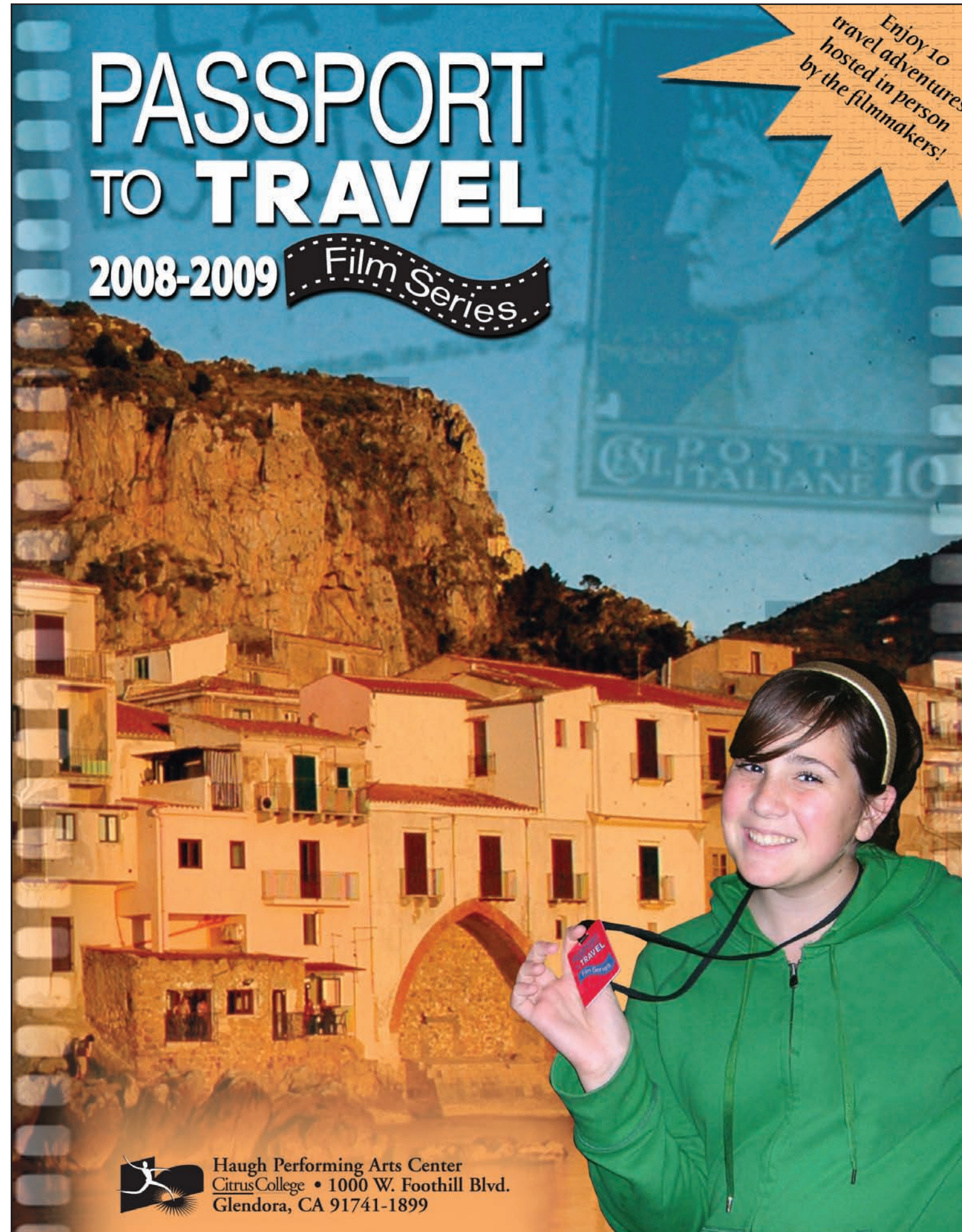
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Wednesday, September 24, 2008

BURMA & CAMBODIA: LANDS OF CONFLICT

Speaker: Buddy Hatton

Burma, the Golden Land - and Cambodia, the land of Angkor - have two things in common: a history of political tyranny that continues today, and astonishing remnants of historical cultures. They also have resilient peoples of great charm. Isolated for many years, only recently has Burma revealed its breathtaking beauty, charm, and ecologically untouched treasures. Cambodia combines French colonial architecture barely a century old with ancient temples that have survived countless wars over a thousand-year period. This remarkable new film explores these little known Asian countries and cultures, offering insights into their politically troubled pasts and hopeful prospects for bright futures.

Buddy Hatton danced his way into the hearts of millions on the "Our Gang" series. He has been in every phase of the entertainment business, including radio, television, and stage. Glib and effervescent, with a perpetual gleam in his eye, Buddy brings to the stage a perfect blend of warmth, wit, and wisdom. He makes his home in San Francisco.

Wednesday, October 8, 2008

BENEATH THE JUNGLE . . . AND BEYOND: MESOAMERICA

Speaker: Dale Johnson

A thousand years before Christ, the flourishing city/kingdoms of Mesoamerica developed in the region now mapped as southern Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, and Honduras. They built temples rivaling those found in Egypt, and created a sophisticated calendar more accurate than our own. Today, the descendents of these ancient Mayans are still farmers and modern-day cowboys, and celebrate their heritage in myriad ways. In some areas, practicing Mennonites have laid claim to the land. It's a fascinating mix of cultures, history, and sights that include everything from ancient temples to the Hieroglyphic Stairway to the Great Barrier Reef of the Caribbean.

Dale Johnson is a life-long filmmaker who began his career in the Army, living for a time with the Choco Indians in lower Panama. He spent two years directing and filming the outdoor television series "The Lone Star Sportsman," and five years at NASA working on films during the "Skylab" era. His most recently completed film for the National Forest Service won a Gold Medal at the New York International Film Festival.

Wednesday, October 29, 2008

BHUTAN: THE CLOUD KINGDOM

Speaker: Tom Sterling

The tiny Himalayan country of Bhutan is the last independent Buddhist Kingdom. Founded in 747 AD, this country of myth and legend has successfully sought isolation until the 20th century. Blessed with a far-sighted and enlightened king, Bhutan began to open up to tourism in the 1970s. Today, her warm-hearted, joyful people welcome outsiders to their land of spectacular landscapes, lush rainforests, glorious monasteries, quaint villages, festivals, and wildlife that is unique to the Himalayas. A true Shangri-la, Bhutan as also known as The Land of the Thunder Dragon.

Tom Sterling began expressing his love of nature on canvas, and later gravitated to film. Following a stint in the Air Force, he received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Michigan before beginning to produce films for the Profiles in Nature and Michigan Outdoors television series. A Michigan native, today he makes his home in Crestwood, Kentucky.

Wednesday, November 12, 2008

FOUR CORNERS USA: A SOUTHWEST ADVENTURE

Speaker: Jim Tompkins

Only in one place in the continental United States do four states connect to form "four corners." The borders of Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico and Utah intersect among scenic mountains, raging rivers, remote canyons and historic cultures of the American Southwest. During our journey we'll ride a steam train through the San Juan Mountains of Colorado; explore incredible slot canyons and the labyrinths of Lake Powell; visit Arches, Capitol Reef, Bryce Canyon, and Zion National Parks; shop Taos and Santa Fe; tour ancient cultural ruins; and experience a Native American Gathering of Heroes.

Jim Tompkins grew up among the gorges and waterfalls of the Finger Lakes region of upstate New York, where he gained an early admiration of nature and landscapes. Although he travels about six months each year, home is in nearby Valencia, California. His films have been seen on all the major platforms of the travel film circuit, and he was recently awarded the Travel Adventure Cinema Society "Hall of Fame" award.

Wednesday, January 21, 2009

ALASKA: THE RV ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME

Speaker:s: John Holod and Jodie Ginter

Come along on the adventure of a lifetime! Over twenty-five years ago, John Holod traveled 1400 miles of dirt road up the Alaska Highway to visit the last frontier by motorcycle. The lure of the great state has brought him back again and again over the years. This time he invites you to come along in the luxurious comfort of an RV! A must see for anyone contemplating the trip - interested in learning about traveling by RV - or just interested in Alaska - we'll learn some Alaska Highway history and see such sites as Dawson Creek, Tok, North Pole Santa House, Fairbanks Discovery River Boat Tour, El Dorado Gold Mine, Anchorage State Fair, Kenai River fishing, Ninilchik clam digging, Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge, and Yukon Railroad.

John Holod seems to have been everywhere - and done it all. He has been a wildlife guide, country music guitarist, and singer. As a photojournalist, John travels the world - often on his motorcycle, and in this case, in his RV! His partner and wife Jodie Ginter contributes her passions for photography, the outdoors, fishing, and deep commitment to social contributions. Their films combine frequent wit, occasional wisdom, and keen eyes for interesting sights and people with a dedication to creating extraordinary and unique glimpses of the world.

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

EGYPT: THE FOOTSTEPS OF MOSES

Speaker: Dennis Burkhart

Our walk in Moses' footsteps will explore the ancient wonders of the Pharaohs, the Bible, the Greeks, the Muslims, and the early Christians. On a Nile cruise to Aswan, we'll view the magnificent temples of Luxor and Karnak, the unforgettable Valley of the Kings, and the stunning temples of Edfu. We'll see both ancient and modern Cairo; visit the Great Pyramids, the Sphinx, and the delta city of Alexandria; stop at ancient turquoise mines and St. Cherine's Monastery; and dive in the Red Sea.

Dennis Burkhart has visited such places as Nepal, Alaska, Easter Island, Kenya, India, and Egypt, capturing award-winning images that have appeared in scholastic publications and National Geographic Magazine. Pursuing his love of wilderness areas has led Dennis to film in over 85 national parks, often as director of photography for The Travel Channel.

Wednesday, February 18, 2009

LA MANCHE: THE ENGLISH CHANNEL

Speakers: Monte & Marsha Brown

From the White Cliffs of Dover to the craggy limits of Land's End, from the Alabaster Coast of Normandy to the Emerald Coast of Brittany, The English Channel is a journey along the facing shores of France and England. Sometimes friendly, often confrontational, the historical relationship between these two great cultures has always been intriguing. The English Channel, or La Manche, as it is known in France, is sometimes a barrier - and sometimes a link. Monte and Marsha will take us on a unique voyage of discovery along the north coast of France and the south coast of England, and some islands in between.

Monte & Marsha Brown Monte was born in England and raised in Canada. He worked for a time as an actor in London, moved to New York to take up a career in songwriting, and eventually moved to Louisiana where he met his wife and partner Marsha. Marsha, an upstate New York native, organized the regional Film Commission, which attracts Hollywood to the Bayou country of Louisiana where the couple make their home. Two of their original compositions appear in the film "Steel Magnolias."

Wednesday, March 18, 2009

POSTCARDS FROM ITALY

Speaker: Steve McCurdy

Postcards From Italy is an insider's look at southern Italy, from the island of Sicily to the mountain top towns of Irsina and Matera to the Island of Procida and the larger cities of Naples and Rome. Joseph Campbell once wrote, "One way or another we have to find what fosters our humanity in this contemporary life and dedicate ourselves to that." In this film, you'll see how some Italians are trying to do exactly that, from an art teacher and artist in Palermo to the owner of a doll hospital in Naples, to the Mayor of Irsina and many more, each with a unique story to tell.

Steve McCurdy has directed and filmed in over 20 countries on 5 continents. His work has been commissioned by such clients as Novell, Compaq, and Hewlett Packard, among others. He has a strong interest and love for the people of Italy, and seeks to understand how people discover and find meaning in their lives regardless of circumstances.

All Performances are on Wednesdays at 2:30 & 7:30PM.

