



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, PLEASE CONTACT: Bryan Wendorf 773-341-6727, info@cuff.org

Subject: The Chicago Underground Film Festival Announces 2016 Kick Off Screening & Fundraiser

Chicago (May 5, 2016) - May 20th 8:00 PM at ***The Nightingale*** - 1084 N Milwaukee Ave, Chicago, IL 60642. Event starts at 8:00 PM. Doors open at 7:00 PM. Be sure to come early, bring a co-conspirator and grab a seat.

This **Special Screening and Fundraising Party** is \$10 general admission, FREE for anyone who has a Festival Pass and FREE for members of IFP Chicago.

All proceeds support and maintain the Chicago Underground Film Festival and ensures that we will be returning for many years to come, continuing as the longest-running underground film festival in the world.

Prior to the screening there will be a raffle! Purchase a ticket, support programming and exhibition of defiantly independent films and perhaps win a prize!

Prizes include: Free tickets to The Vic Brew & View, CUFF Festival Passes, one of a kind posters by artist Mitch O'Connell, and many more to come!

The Chicago Underground Film Festival proudly kicks off their 23rd year to present a special pre-fest screening of the third feature installment and world premiere of Ernest J. Ramon's notorious and sinister *Critical Paranoia* series: **Critical Paranoia: The Aquarian Conspiracy**.

The evening will begin with a program of short films by the following CUFF staff members:

*Danielle Campbell

*LJ Frezza

*Tommy Heffron

*Emily Oscarson

*Adam Paradis

*Aren Zolninger

(Approx 90min)

You can purchase tickets and festival passes [here](#)

To become a member of IFP Chicago, visit us [here](#)

Critical Paranoia: The Aquarian Conspiracy

Everybody look children, what's that sound? What if every song you've ever liked or listened to on the radio, every album you've ever bought downloaded or stole, was the product of an insidious military-industrial scenario intent upon cultivating a pop culture landscape capable of brainwashing the population of America and indeed the entire world lock step in line with an evil agenda deeper and broader than any reform, revolution, or the most repugnant anti-human movement. Did journalist Hunter S. Thompson infiltrate the notorious Bohemian Grove Club and subsequently seal his fate as an illuminati puppet following a deep legacy marriage between CIA shadow agencies the mass media and youth culture, how many Paul McCartney's are there? Is it just a coincidence that almost all so called rock and pop stars are products of high ranking military families? Who really wrote all of the Beatles songs and masterminded the counterculture and mainstream pop movements of the last 50 years? What's the significance or importance of the number twenty-three and the true meaning of the Aquarian Conspiracy? Creeping paranoia runs deep; what *is* happening here? And who or what is exactly behind it?

60min - video

ABOUT THE CHICAGO UNDERGROUND FILM FESTIVAL

Now in its twenty-third year, the Chicago Underground Film Festival, presented by IFP Chicago, is dedicated to the work of film and video makers with defiantly independent visions. Widely recognized as a world-class event, the festival showcases the best in new American and international cinema and providing the movie-loving public with access to some of the most critically acclaimed filmmakers and emerging talent from around the world. Our mission is to promote films and videos that dissent radically in form, technique, or content from the "indie" mainstream and to present adventurous works that challenge and transcend commercial and audience expectations. 25 programs comprised narrative, documentary and experimental features, shorts, and music videos, representing more than 15 countries, make up the main body of the festival, along with nightly parties and music events, discussions and other networking and community building events. To learn more about the festival visit www.cuff.org, on Facebook at ChicagoUndergroundFilmFestival and Twitter @CUFF_Chicago

ABOUT IFP CHICAGO

IFP/Chicago is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization committed to the idea that independent film is an important art form and a powerful voice in our society. We provide information, community, education and professional development opportunities for independent filmmakers, industry professionals and independent film enthusiasts. We encourage quality and diversity in independent production and assist filmmakers at all levels of experience in realizing their unique vision. To find out about upcoming programs & events, or to sign up for the IFP Chicago newsletter visit www.ifpchicago.org. Find IFP Chicago on Facebook IFP-Chicago and Twitter @IFPCHICAGO.