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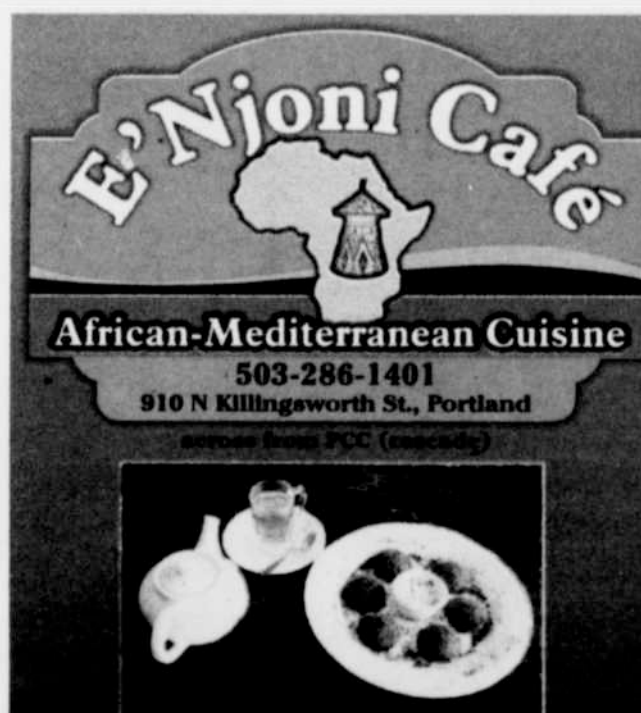
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The Reel Deal

Diverse local efforts put focus on queer filmmaking

COVERAGE BY RYAN J. PRADO

With a vibrant Pacific Northwest backdrop and even more colorful indie atmosphere, the Rose City is known to (pun alert!) lens itself to queer film. From QDoc and the Portland Lesbian and Gay Film Festival to "straighter" staple showcases like the Portland International Film Festival and the upcoming Northwest Filmmakers' Festival (November 11–20), the area's talented auteurs, movers, shakers, actors, grips and other creatives unspool their efforts throughout the year.

Add to the established mix the just-wrapped annual Portland Oregon Women's Film Festival (POW Fest) and DIY rookies Shorty Shorts Queer Short Film Festival, set for late November at Q Center. Both relative newcomers have injected a healthy dose of LGBTQ content, and filmmaking, to the celluloid stew—and there's plenty more where that came from.

Cut, print, read on.

Now, seven years after shooting wrapped, the fully realized film is ready to premiere in its 43-minute form November 12 and 13 at the Hollywood Theatre. *Austin Unbound* will screen again November 15 as part of the Northwest Filmmakers' Festival at the Portland Art Museum.

Greenwood had been showing the 13-minute version of the film steadily since late 2004, with Richey accompanying to give presentations and to answer questions. The pair have grown into what they see as a brother-sister relationship, and now that the full film is finished, both report they're excited to turn the page in a new chapter of *Austin Unbound*.

"I'm thrilled," said Greenwood, 31. "It's the moment I've been dreaming of for a long time."

Reaching the end of the production, however, wasn't without its share of bumps in the road, or differing perspectives on the film's focus between subject and creator. Greenwood's newness to both the trans and queer communities in Portland concerned Richey initially. Greenwood works as an interpreter for the deaf community, and has a sister who's deaf. She graduated with a theater degree from George Washington University, and also attended Gallaudet University, the world's only liberal arts college for the deaf and hard-of-hearing. It wasn't until she became immersed in Portland's queer community, and subsequently worked with Richey as a stage manager for a local comedy night for the deaf, that she opened up to what the trans community was all about.

"I had heard the concept of trans, but I wasn't really out and involved in the gay and lesbian community," said Greenwood. "I

Trans-cending Sound

Portland doc *Austin Unbound* sees full film release after seven years

Devotees of Portland-based independent film may recall the 2004 release of a truncated documentary exploring the journey of Austin Richey to receive a double mastectomy in San Francisco. Richey, born deaf and female, allowed cameras to accompany him during the weeks prior to and during his surgery, facilitated by first-time filmmaker, and head of Greensoda Productions, Eliza Greenwood. The short film, *Austin Unbound*, has since been featured at numerous conferences and colleges nationwide.



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