

Spike and Mike's Sick and Twisted Festival of Animation

The bad boys of animation are back and ready to offend. Spike and Mike, the people who were first to show *Beavis and Butthead*, *South Park*, *Rugrats* and *Wallace and Gromit* are offering 20 animated shorts and a select handful of cult favorites this year at their annual cartoonfest. The festival is showing at Cinema 21, 616 NW 21st Ave. in Portland. Tickets are \$7 at the door and in advance through Ticketmaster (224-4400). You must be 18 years old with a valid I.D. to get into the festival. For more info call Cinema 21 at 223-4515.

Animation Festival Dates and Showtimes

February

Fridays Feb. 18 & 25 7:00, 9:15 & 11:30 p.m.
Saturdays Feb. 19 & 26 7:00, 9:15 & 11:30 p.m.
Sunday-Thursday Feb. 20-24 & 27 7:00 & 9:15 p.m.

March

Fridays Mar. 3, 10, 17 & 24 11:30 p.m.
Saturdays Mar. 4, 11, 18 & 25 11:30 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SPIKE AND MIKE

[above] *Bowlin' Fer Souls*, by *Supergenius*, is one of many animated shorts included in this year's Spike and Mike's Sick and Twisted Festival of Animation. *Bowlin' Fer Souls* shows Satan patrolling Hell in a hot rod looking for stray souls.

Written work wanted

Calling all writers! The deadline for the Writers' Club Contest is Friday, March 3, so hurry up and submit your best and brightest work. You may submit up to 3 poems, 1 essay, 1 piece of fiction and 1 one-act play. 4 copies of each entry are required when submitting your work, as well as a cover page for each entry.

Every entry should also include the title of the work as well as your social security number. The cover page for each entry should include the title, the category, your name, social security number, address and telephone number. Include an IBM-compatible 3.5" disk with your work saved on it. All entries will be considered for the literary magazine *Synesthesia*. Turn in your entries to Allen Widerburg in S124, or call him for more information at ext. 2359.

ENTRY

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SOCIAL SECURITY #
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COVER PAGE

TITLE
CATEGORY
NAME
SOCIAL SECURITY #
ADDRESS
PHONE #

Penn fails to save lackluster jazz film

SHELBI WESCOTT
Feature Editor

Woody Allen's latest film, a story about fictional legendary 1930's jazz guitarist Emmet Ray, could have been powerful, emotional and hilarious.

But it wasn't.

While *Sweet and Lowdown* had moments of humor and moments of disgust (often a feeling evoked when watching Allen's films), the story seemed to drag along and repeat itself. I didn't reprimand my boyfriend for falling asleep for a quarter of the film, because I too found places in the movie worthy of 'power napping' through.

There were, however, some redeeming qualities to the film, primarily Sean Penn's (*Dead Man Walking*, *The Thin Red Line*) performance of Emmet Ray. It is a little unknown fact that Penn, who never before touched a guitar, learned the hyperdexterous fingering to over 30 virtuoso jazz

songs. Penn is almost unrecognizable as Ray and he does a wonderful job of combining a melodramatic guitar player, a womanizer, a kleptomaniac, and a drunk all into one character. Despite Ray's despicable antics, you sympathize with him, which means



Sean Penn and Samantha Morton share an intimate moment in *Sweet and Lowdown*.

that Penn did his job well.

Another actor that carried the film is Samantha Morton. A relatively unknown British actress, Morton is sure to become a familiar face in Hollywood. Morton plays Hattie, a deaf laundress whom Ray falls in love with. Without uttering a single word,

Morton speaks to Ray and to the audience with her bright eyes and unforgettable expressions.

The only negative about Morton's performance is that she looks like she is twelve-years-old, which seems to be an odd pairing with Penn who looks to be in his early-mid thirties. However, Hattie is adorable (even if in a little girl way) and her character is easy to fall in love with.

Uma Thurman (*Gattaca*, *Pulp Fiction*) plays Blanche, a rich troubled woman looking for Emmet Ray's love. Thurman's performance left something to be desired. She seemed flat, one-dimensional and melodramatic. I was happy when her character

disappeared and Hattie came back into the picture, even if briefly.

I suppose Woody Allen fans will enjoy this jaunt back into the 1930's jazz scene. I, not being a fan, probably should have taken by money and gone to see *Galaxy Quest* again. (That was my plug for a movie I did enjoy.)

Free Valentine's Day Card

FROM THE CLACKAMAS PRINT

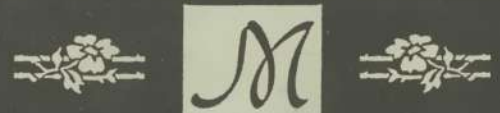
Cut this freebie out, check the appropriate boxes and present it to your sweetie/boytoy/one-night stand, and get ready for the fun to start.

You are...

- MY TRUE LOVE
- MY SWEETHEART
- A GUY/GIRL I JUST SAW ON THE STREET AND I REALLY WANT TO MAKE OUT WITH YOU
- MY SECRET CRUSH

I am...

- DEEPLY DEVOTED TO YOU
- IN LOVE WITH YOU
- IN LOVE WITH YOUR BROTHER/SISTER
- A HOOKER



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