FESTIVAL FROM PAGE BI

experimental and independent filmmakers for the past three years. Some of these films were curated or selected to be shown at the festival - but aren't entered in the competition -one of the oldest film festivals in North America.

one of the oldest film festivals in North America. "There's definitely a lot of political films. We've always been known for showing politi-cal films, 'said Hamilton, 'Tim really excited about a documeatary that's not competing but was curated - Sam Green's Weather Underground about the militant faction of the SDS (Students for a Democratic Society) that was involved with trying to overthrow the govern-ment during the Vietnam War. The film starts to roll during

The film starts to roll during a pre-festival screening, and former Weatherman Mark Rudd shares his feelings about those years. Green then cuts quickly to vintage footage showing a newscaster talking about the 232 soldiers killed within two weeks in Victnam. Dead bodies, blood spurting like a fountain from a wound, a soldier executing a Vietnames man in the head in the middle of the street; Martin Luther King Jr. talking about the evil, unjust war, protesters battling police in American streets. This

program, two 9/11 films, a spot-light on Japanese filmmakers, and a gay/lesbian evening of programming. And we do have some fun escapism. It's one of our best years for animation. A large portion came in on 35mm – a medium animators like to use.

LOCAL ARTS

MISSION

"It's the film festival's mission to support filmmakers and artists all over the world. This artists all over the world. This year we have artists from Australia, Canada, Iran, Germany, Austria, England. We want to remain true to the mis-sion of the festival in terms of showing the latest in technical innovation since the festival started 40 years ago, said Hamilton. "We want to be at the cutting rdge of the moving image."

Haminia is the average of the moving image. Jubite Dugay knows the's seeing the best of what experi-mental illimmakers are creating each year when she attends the ferival. That's why she was delighted when her *Deal Fish* short was chosen for the com-petition. It's being screened at 9:30 p.m. Weinesday, March 12. Filmed at Seven Mile and Jefferson on the shoreline of the Detroic River, the film asks, what would have happened if Shakespeare's Hamilet came to look for his beloved Ophelia before she could commit sui-cide?Dugay was inspired by the cide?Dugay was inspired by the



A scene from Sam Green's documentary on the Weather Underground. The film includes vintage footage.

lyrics of the Led Zeppelin song. That the Way, about a girl standing by the river, "and all the fish that lay in dirty water dyng," (In Shakespeare's play, Ophelia committed suicide by drowning berself.) "I buy a week past to the Ann Arbor Film Festival every year," said Dugay, a Harper Woods resident just beginning a film-making career. The things I've

3/12

3/16

Salman Rushdie's Midnight's Children

Shakespeare Company

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An extraordinary and kaleidoscopic tale of modern India that recounts the epic story of Indian independence and the births of Pakistan and Bangladesh as seen through the eyes of one remulkable family.

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ANN ARBOR FILM FESTIVAL What: An international celebration of experimental and independent films featuring competition and curated screenings. When: Tuesday-Sunday. March 11-16. Screenings 8 p.m. Juesday: 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Wednesday: 7 p.m., 9.30 p.m. and 11 p.m. Thursday-Friday, 2 p.m., 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Saturday. Winner's screenings 5 p.m., 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Sunday Screening Room (curated films) 1 p.m., 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday Where: Michigan Theatre, 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. For directions, call (734) 668-8397 Tickets: \$7, \$50 week pass, available one hour before showtime at box office. For information before the festival, call (734) 995-5356 or visit www.aafilmfest.org

one sitting your mind can be opened to all possibilities." khomin@oe.homecomm.net | (734) 953 2145

seen there inspire me all year. I love short films and the fact in



Observer & Eccentric 3 Toursday, March 6, 2003

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is powerful stuff that's still rele-vant today. Next up was An Injury to One in which Travis Wilkerson recalls the long-forgotten mur-der of union organizer Frank Little. The stark black-and-white film indicts the Anaconda Mining Company in Butte. Mont., for causing the deaths of thousands of writers. Hamilton admits she's show-ing primarily heavy subjects at the screening. Israeli filomaker Avi Mograhl focuses on Jewidh children spewing harred for Araha as they walk through the streets of Tel Asiv. Part docu-mentary and part fictional drara, August: A Moment Before Eruption, portrays a sallee of the turbulence they experience in daily life. Then, on a lighter note, David Russo brings a wood-carving of a humanoit to life in Popul, a combination of ani-mation, pixilation and time-lapse. This one is almost dizzy-ing to watch as a solitary stump whilds across the landscape. Tis not just Ifoma anymore. We were eliminating a lot of filmmakers who were working in 35mm. For the first time we're added 55mm this year as well as Digital New School screenings of experimental video works created with digital technologies," said Hamilton. "We have a strong competition K & M.Productions presence.



Dennis Russell Davies sonductor Catherine Malfitano seprona Alexander Keander and Halfram von Badecher r Orchestra Thu 3/6 Lpm Michigan Theater - Ann Arbor Neingan Dream - Ann Abor Anerican approna Cathrine Half Alana performs Pulatzer Phize-unange composed and UK Polesau Milliam Dalcom's new and, Madau a, init send permitre cesan. Denni Russell Darves also Fadd permitre cesan. Denni Russell Darves also Fadd performaber Cohercian and Philip Glass's incher Upper Roam, a series of darvest commi-performaber by two mines. PROGRAM Glass In the Upper Room Haydan Symphony No. 19 in diminor ("La Passione" Bolcom Medusa (world première season) DAIMLERCHRYSLER The performance or a property with the Statement's of Makagan Review Sporser (MSS 92), I. PM. Fares: Inealth Sarowa's presents the 124th Rowar' (here) Lower Sarow Mind Ensemble of the Greater Lansing **UMS** Choral Symphony Orchestro Thomas Sheets conductor Jennifer Larson suscero Union Suranne Hansen wess-represe Suranne Hansen wess-represe Steven Henriksan boss-bortone J. Lawrence Henkel norstor Janice Beck organ J. Lawrence ... Sat **3/22 E**pm Serve Auditorium - Ypsilanti Perse Audistrum - Spulenti Hiter serving or conductor of the UHS Choral Union for the post decade, homma Sherts conducts his final performance with the Choral Union In UHV anovikisity spolmed Pesse Audistrum, Under Dis Shert's leadership, the UHS Choral Union has won high prosis for its glorisus sound. The Choral Union - made this uncomponing muck...stend at sace sublime and altogether managrable". (The Dericit News) PROGRAM King David • Regulem Hanneger Duruflá Reyal Shakespeare Company: The Michigan Residen What we have the provided of the University of Michigan invite the blic to take part in a number of educational events during february of March related to the RSC's upcoming performances. For information undered news likings, allocat with www.mich.edu.pros/ne. nod undated event listings, please visit were.