

## For Immediate Release

**What: Nick Peterson: Films New and Old**

**When: Wednesday December 12th, 2012 at 8PM (one night only)**

**Where: Clinton Street Theater (2522 SE Clinton Street)**

**Program Running Time: 100 minutes**

**Price: \$5-10 sliding scale**

**Theater Email: [info@clintonsttheater.com](mailto:info@clintonsttheater.com)**

**Theater Phone: (503) 238-5588**

**Theater Website: <http://cstpx.com/show/nick-peterson-films-new-and-old>**

**Purchase Advanced Tickets: <https://www.boxofficetickets.com/go/event?id=208665>**

### Event Description

This is a collection of short films inviting the viewer to hear the unspoken stories that lie between lines of dialogue. These films consist of an ever present theme that explores the human condition yet inspires creative interpretation. The trilogy, *Three Muses*, is a series of portraits of individuals who have personally influenced the filmmaker, Nick Peterson, and represent various stages of the awareness and influence of art throughout a persons life. A laborious effort, from carrying over 90 pounds of film equipment across the treacherous snow-covered obsidian flows of Paulina Peak to the construction of a performance stage in the middle of Summit Lake atop Mt Hood, *Muses* was as much of a physical endurance trial as it was a collaborative feat of tenacity and vision. *Nihon Kyuukei (9 Views of Japan)* is a collection of landscape portraits shot over the course of a 3 week visit to Japan last summer. It sent Nick to remote and rural destinations in search of the distinctive relationship between Japan's scenic vistas and the character of it's people.

### About Nick

From the crude animations of his 4th grade after school classes to his very first narrative films which were shot on his father's Super 8mm camera and hand processed in a homemade tank, Nick has been making films in his hometown of Portland, Oregon since the inquisitive age of 9. His award winning work has played at festivals such as Harvard Film Archive, Rooftop Films, Ann Arbor, Minneapolis-St. Paul International, Bumbershoot and The Northwest Film and Video Festival. Often characterized for their ambition to challenge common narrative film trends, his films have garnered critical praise from filmmakers such as James Benning and Gus Van Sant. In 2010 he premiered his second feature film *red* (originally titled *Field Guide to November Days*), an almost wordless study of social isolation and sexual identity. The film was made entirely by the aid of bicycle and in late 2010 he and the film's producer Mary DeFreese took the film on the road by biking it from Vancouver, B.C. to Los Angeles on a 4 week/9 city tour. His first feature, the musical comedy *yellow*, features seven-and-a-half original songs recorded utilizing a live ensemble during filming (i.e.: no dubbing was used). "[*yellow*] is an eye- and ear-opener of a film—one of my favorite 'unknown masterworks' of the past five years." - Ray Carney

## Individual Film Descriptions

### The Three Muses (PREMIERE)

A trilogy of meditative short films which explore how age and memory relate to artistic inspiration and how one's perspective on life is altered during the process. In "Melete" (contemplation), 4 year old Yuna embarks on a camping trip with her parents to the Deschutes National Forest in central Oregon. Captivated by her new scenic surroundings, Yuna's curiosity leads her imagination to grow and reflect inwardly. "Aoide" (song) documents a live performance by the experimental duo Why I Must Be Careful as they play on a specially constructed platform that was built in the middle of Summit Lake high atop Mt. Hood. Finally, "Mneme" (memory) follows 70 year old Eugene as his daily routine accidentally intersects with the life of a stranger. This trilogy was funded in part by the Regional Arts & Culture Council.

[2012, 35mm transferred to HD Video, 40 minutes]

More information: <http://www.sampofilms.com/three-muses/>



### 日本九景 (*nihon kyūkei*) - "Nine views of Japan" (PREMIERE)

From the Kantō prefecture in central Honshu to the Kyushu region in the south, this collection of landscape portraits was taken in Japan during the summer of 2012. Along the journey are such sights as the flowing rice fields of Kanagawa prefecture, the sounds of the deafening drone of cicadas off the shores of Karatsu and a gliding ferry ride to Yawatahama across the Uwa Sea. A profile of a stunningly beautiful country often typified by the bustling and crowded cities of Tokyo and Osaka, *kyūkei* is a quiet musing on rural Japan's more easily missed splendor.

[2012, HD Video, 37 minutes]

More Information: <http://www.sampofilms.com/nine-views-of-japan/>

### Musical Offering

A short experiment inspired by Anton Webern's famed 1935 arrangement of a fugue for 6 voices from J.S. Bach's "Musical Offering". The film is built entirely of a succession of horizontal traveling shots which mimic Webern's acute mapping of different instruments to the same melody lines. Filmed in the summer of 2005 using a portable camera dolly designed and constructed by metal shop students at Franklin High School.

[2004, Super 16mm transferred to HD, 11 minutes]

More Information: <http://www.sampofilms.com/musical-offering/>

## **Dog Breath, In the Year of the Plague**

Three cynical friends participate in an iconoclastic plan to chide death.

[2004, Super 16mm transferred to HD, 12 minutes]

More Information: <http://www.sampofilms.com/dog-breath-in-the-year-of-the-plague/>