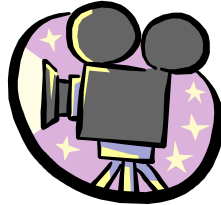


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**Local Mental Health agencies and local Film Festival unite to present**  
**‘Reel Mind Film Series;’**  
**“Out of the Shadow” to be shown June 2nd**

“Out of the Shadow”, a provocative and courageous documentary regarding schizophrenia will be shown at The Cinema at 7:00 p.m. on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. In this touching film, creator Susan Smiley tells the story of her family’s secret struggle to deal with their mother’s schizophrenia within the confines of the public health system. The film, which has been hailed as an illuminating story of madness and dignity, shame and love, is second in a series of four films that explore mental illness and make up Rochester’s “Reel Mind Film Series.”

The Reel Mind Film Series is a new, collaborative effort among the National Alliance on Mental Illness, the Mental Health Association, the Rochester High Falls International Film Festival, Compeer, East House, and the University of Rochester Cluster on Human Values. Series organizers enjoyed a successful kick-off on May 17th, when every seat at the Little’s largest theatre was sold for a showing of “My Mother’s Garden” a documentary by Cynthia Lester. In the film, Lester’s mother, Eugenia, has a hoarding disorder, and her house has become so full that Eugenia, literally, sleeps outdoors. Almost every guest stayed for the discussion after the film, which included comments by Lester, as well as psychiatrist Dr. Larry Guttmacher and a local client who has been treated for hoarding disorder. The audience asked many good questions and eagerly lined up to meet Lester after the program ended.

## REEL MIND FILM SERIES

Page 2

“It tells us that there is a need for this kind of series, that people are looking for information, understanding and discussion on mental health issues,” said Herb Katz, who Co-Chairs the series with Dr. Guttmacher. “Out of the Shadow” will also be followed by a discussion with the filmmaker, a local psychiatrist and client.

The third film in the series “Autism, the Musical,” directed by Tricia Regan, will be shown on June 16th, at 7:00 p.m. also at the Cinema. This musical is an inspirational foray into the lives of five children, and explores the creative process that provides a key to unlocking their inner worlds. The last of the series, “The Devil and Daniel Johnston,” directed by Jeff Feuerzeig, will be shown on June 30<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. at the Cinema. This features Daniel Johnston, a manic-depressive genius singer/songwriter, revealed in this portrait of madness, creativity and love. Each film will be followed by a discussion with filmmakers, consumers and local mental health care professionals.

Tickets to the films are \$8, and are available by visiting or calling the Mental Health Association at (585) 325-3145. Group tickets to any one movie are also available at discounted rates.

The Reel Mind Film Series is sponsored by Marcia and Gary Stern, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, the Mental Health Association, the Rochester High Falls International Film Festival, Compeer, DePaul Community Services, Excellus Blue Cross/Blue Shield, East House, Rochester Rehabilitation Center and the University of Rochester Cluster on Human Values.

*For more information, call Series Chairperson, Herb Katz, at (585) 264-1624.*

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