



Hillbilly Anarchist Skaters Descend on the Santa Barbara Intl. Film Festival

Headlamp Pictures will screen "Skatopia: 88 Acres of Anarchy" at the 25th Santa Barbara International Film Festival on Tuesday, February 9th and Friday, February 12th, 2010 in Santa Barbara, California.

"I'm a skater. I'm here to prove a point... that you can survive without immersing yourself in the system."

- Brewce Martin, Owner of Skatopia

Skatopia is one of skateboarding's most mythic spots... an Appalachian farm where hardcore skating, punk rock and hillbilly culture collide. Mad-Max style demolition derbies and spontaneous car burning accompany all night skate sessions. Pain is a badge of honor.

But all this freedom requires a lot of work. Owner Brewce Martin, the self-proclaimed "Dictator" of Skatopia, presides over the mayhem like a modern-day Jim Jones. Over 12 years, he has built a skatepark worth millions of dollars. His secret weapon is a free labor force of itinerant skaters and local hillbillies. They come for the freedom and the skating and end up pitching in: doing laundry, picking up garbage and building new skate terrain.

The movie follows Brewce through an obstacle strewn year as his radical twist on the American dream is challenged by bill collectors, a rag-tag labor force and an unexpected stint in the regional jail. Now 40, he is determined to pull Skatopia out of debt and create a monument to skating and freedom that will outlast him.

The film celebrates the freedom from everyday life that Skatopia offers, but it also takes a hard look at the flip side of Brewce's energy and charisma. The audience won't find a story-book hero – Brewce can switch from inspiring visionary to bullying cult-leader in seconds. But his fierce, unapologetic pursuit of his dream will inspire even those who have never touched a skateboard.

Brewce Martin gave the filmmakers total access to his life and Skatopia during the two years of filming. For one of those years, the filmmakers lived on-location in Appalachia. The filmmakers and Brewce will be attending both screenings.

About Headlamp Pictures:

The company is run by Colin Powers and Laurie House, the directors and producers of Skatopia: 88 Acres of Anarchy. The owners have edited, directed, shot and produced television documentaries, fiction, corporate and music videos in Philadelphia and Los Angeles.

Trailer: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bTgV44R_loU

Festival: <http://sbiff.org/main/>

Film website: <http://www.skatopiathemovie.com/>

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