"In Drawing a parallel between the history of revolution and the free expression of gender, Maggots and Men evokes the poignant sense that our present world is haunted by radical potentials that have yet to be fulfilled." -- Susan Stryker

MaGGOTS aND MEN
Queering History/ Re–visioning Utopia

56 Min, 2009
Exhibition Format: Digibeta
Production Format: 16mm/ Super8
Director: Cary Cronenwett
Director of Photography: Ilona Berger
Editors: Tiger Brown, Cary Cronenwett
Composer: Jascha Ephraim
Screenplay by Cary Cronenwett, Ilona Berger, Icky A.
Art Direction: Flo McGarrel, Zeph Fishlyn

SHORT SYNOPSIS

MAGGOTS AND MEN is an experimental historical narrative set in a mythologized, post–revolutionary Russia that re–imagines the story of the 1921 rebellion of the Kronstadt sailors with a twist of gender anarchy. Agit–prop theater group Blue Blouse guides us through the story, which is narrated by fictionalized letters written by Stepan Petrichenko, the leader of the Provisional Revolutionary Committee.

Email: maggotsandmen@gmail.com, Web: www.maggotsandmen.com
MaGGOTS aND MEN

“Set in a mythologized post revolutionary Russia, but based on actual historical events, Maggots marshals early Soviet cinema, the gutter eroticism of Jean Genet, and what at times seems like a transgender cast of thousands to build its case for the necessity of queer utopias. – Matt Sussman (Bay Guardian, June 2009)

LONG SYNOPSIS
Painting the brief success of communal society at Kronstadt as a fanciful utopia, MAGGOTS AND MEN transports us to a realm where we can dream of alternatives to capitalism.

The Kronstadt sailors had a long tradition as radicals and fierce warriors, which began with the failed revolution of 1905 (the subject of Battleship Potemkin). MAGGOTS AND MEN dramatizes the tragic events of March 1921 that ensued when the Kronstadt sailors drafted a resolution that supported the factory workers on strike in St. Petersburg.

Through an imagined love story between their leader, Stepan Petrichenko, and another Sailor, Yuri Kilgast, the viewer experiences the break-up of cohesion at Kronstadt as the island community is torn apart by the oppressive response from the Bolshevik government.

MAGGOTS AND MEN positions the struggle for gender equality within a larger struggle for peace and justice. Cast with female-to-male transgender actors, the film documents a rapidly evolving transgender community and illuminates the gender revolution currently taking place in our society.

CAST

Stormy Henry Knight PETRICHENKO
Travis Clough KILGAST
Scout Festa ARCHIPOV
Texas Starr PEREPELKIN
Kori Wright PAVLOV
Billee Tania YAKIVENKO
Brody Elton VALK
Ace Mccarrelton ROMANENKO
Luis Mamayson LAMENOV
Eric Davis RADIO OPERATOR
Max Wolf Valerio EX–GENERAL KOZLOVSKY
Gary Gregerson VILKEN

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Justin Kelly LENIN’S PERSONAL ASSISTANT
Jeff Stroker LENIN’S NEW FAVORITE
Walt Thorp LENIN
David Gantz TROTSKY
Vixen Noir BLUE BLOUSE TEACHER
Marci Blackman SCOUT

CREW

DIRECTOR Cary Cronenwett
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY Ilona Berger
ART DIRECTORS Flo McGarrell
Gaffers Zeph Fishlyn
Lex Young
Bill Basquin
2ND UNIT DP Natalie Newman
Bug Davidson
Samara Halperin
ADDITIONAL CAMERA Siobhan O’Brien
Tiger Brown
K8 Hardy
Sergey Yashenko
Omar Wilson
Sarah Kennedy
Sam Hawk Pierce
PRODUCER Cary Cronenwett
In association with Shane Francis Co.
CO-PRODUCER Ilona Berger
ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS Texas Starr
Flo McGarrell
EDITORS Tiger Brown
Cary Cronenwett
STORY Cary Cronenwett
Blake Nemec
SCREENPLAY Cary Cronenwett
Ilona Berger
BLUE BLOUSE SCREENPLAY Alec Icky Dunn
PETRICHENKO’S LETTERS Alec Icky Dunn
COSTUME DESIGN Siobhan Aluvalot
Flo Mcgarrell
Austin Bjorkman
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR Sini Anderson

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PRODUCTION COORDINATOR
Sarah Kennedy

SET PHOTOGRAPHERS
Andrew Wingler
Heather Renee Russ
Dascha Gavrilova
Danny Nicoletta

CHOREOGRAPHER for BLUE BLOUSE
Zoe Fife

CHOREOGRAPHER for CABARET
Burnie Gipson

SCORE
Jascha Ephraim

AUDIO POST PRODUCTION
Potrero Post Studios, San Francisco

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Arch and Bruce Brown Production Grant

FISCAL SPONSOR

Intersection for the Arts

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Cary Treadwell Cronenwett received the 2009 Bay Area Guardian Goldie, Award for Local Discovery after the release of his first feature film, MAGGOTS AND MEN. His short film, Phineas Slipped (2002, 15 min., Super8/Video), played extensively in the international LGBT film festival circuit.

CONTACT

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