



Carnavalesque Films

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Mardi Gras: Made in China—feature length documentary



Carnavalesque Films will release the Award Winning documentary **MARDI GRAS: MADE IN CHINA** in stores everywhere on July 29, 2008. Winner of twenty national and international awards, **Mardi Gras: Made in China** follows the path of Mardi Gras beads from the naked streets of New Orleans during Carnival – where revelers party and exchange beads for nudity – to

the disciplined factories in Fuzhou, China – where teenage girls live and sew beads together all day and night. Blending curiosity with comedy, **Mardi Gras: Made in China** is the only film to explore how the toxic products directly affect the people who both make and consume them.

Carnavalesque Films is a new production and distribution company whose goal is to explore how personal stories relate to complex social issues. David Redmon and Ashley Sabin - directors of the award winning films **KAMP KATRINA** and **INTIMIDAD** - founded Carnavalesque Films and will release three award winning films **ORPHANS** (SXSW, Jury Award - Ry Russo-Young), **THE HOLY MODAL ROUNDERS: BOUND TO LOSE** (Slamdance - Paul Lovelace and Sam Douglas), and **MANHATTAN, KANSAS** (SXSW, Audience Award - Tara Wray) on September 28, October 30, and November 16, 2008. Other releases coming soon: **INTIMIDAD**, and **INVISIBLE GIRLFRIEND**.

MARDI GRAS: MADE IN CHINA

Street Date: July 29, 2008

Review copies available now

SRP: \$19.95 – available on CarnavalesqueFilms.com, Amazon.com, BarnesAndNoble.com, BestBuy.com, Borders.com, CircuitCity.com, Netflix.com, BlockBuster.com

Bonus features: PG version, deleted scenes, extra scenes, 7 min version, clips from upcoming films, and a worker's diary.

- Sundance Film Festival - Nominated for the Grand Jury Award
- Winner of 20 awards, Theatrically Released in the U.S.
- Curated by the Sundance Channel as one of the "Classical Festival Moments"
- New York Time's Critics Pick by Stephen Holden

"Punchy documentary critique of globalization looks at the conditions in a factory in the Chinese city of Fuzhou where young workers make the beads showered onto revelers in New Orleans in exchange for baring their breasts at Mardi Gras." *New York Times*

"Cleverly juxtaposes the apex of American bacchanalian excess with the sweatshop-like conditions that facilitate the fun." *Los Angeles Times*

"This is one of the best films I know about real (as opposed to op-ed) globalization. Please welcome it." *The Nation*

"A documentary that stirs the conscience," **Ben Kenigsberg**, *Time Out*

"This smart, witty look at the human cost of free-market reforms and globalization tracks the necklaces from hard labor at one end to hedonism at the other." **Ella Taylor**, *LA Weekly*

Directors Statement—

In 2002, David Redmon decided to make *Mardi Gras: Made in China* (74 minutes) after reading articles about China's rapid transformation into a capitalist, free market economy. Redmon wanted to follow one object from China to the United States in order to visually personalize globalization and illustrate how the commodity chain is connected to different people along the alienated and seemingly disconnected route. Out of curiosity and seduction, Redmon chose Mardi Gras beads as the object to analyze "from the factory to the festival." Redmon followed his bead-trail of curiosity to the rural region of Fuzhou, China where the bead factory is located in a tax-free Special Economic Zone. After staying with the workers and documenting their everyday life inside a factory compound for two months, government officials in China requested that Redmon immediately leave the factory. Redmon left China and continued his bead-journey by following the bead trail to New Orleans during Carnival. Redmon's purpose was to invite others to be part of a constructive debate about globalization by showing how the beads are transported, consumed, disposed, and recycled during their global journey.



About Carnavalesque Films—

Carnavalesque Films is a documentary production and distribution company. Founded in 2004 by David Redmon and Ashley Sabin, our collaborative goal is to explore how personal stories relate to complex social issues.

Carnavalesque Films shoots, edits, and distributes award-winning films that challenge audiences with unusual perspectives.
