

SHIKASHIKA

a documentary short

- Director: Stephen Hyde (u.s.a) first project
- 10 minutes | 2008 | Color
- Country of Production: Peru
- Country of Post-Production: u.s.a
- Brief monologue in Quechua with English subtitles
- Screening format option
- [NTSC] Digital Beta | BetaSP | DV | DVD
- [PAL] BetaSP | DV | DVD
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**New York Premiere at the Museum of Modern Art
Documentary Fortnight, 2009 Feb 11th – 19th**

[brief synopsis] (84 words)

Filmed in Peru, this rhythmic portrait documentary reveals the process of making a colorful shave ice called *Shikashika*. To make it one family must journey afoot into the Andes mountains where they cut enormous blocks of ice with an axe and bare hands. On the return journey they strap the ice blocks atop mules and lead them down steep granite canyons. The following day *Shikashika* is sold at the steps of a cathedral in the valley far below. The film offers a rare glimpse into life and work in the Peruvian highlands.

website: www.shikashika.com

[Awards]

Jury Prize for “Best Film” \$1000.

Cambridge International Super 8 Film Festival, 24th – 26th April, 2008

Documentary Short: “First Prize” \$500.

Athens International Film and Video Festival, 2008

Conecticut Film Festival, 2008:

“Best Anthropological Film”

Kidz Kino: “Best Cultural Short”

Mountainfilm in Telluride, 2008

Port Townsend Film Festival, 2008

Jury Prize for Best Documentary Short

[Press]

Small Format Magazine (Summer 2008)

Kodak In Camera Magazine (July, 2008)

[Festival Screenings] (last update January 2009)

True/False Film Festival, Columbia MO. Feb 28th - March 3rd, 2008 (premiere)
5th Annual Dawson City International Short Film Festival, Canada. March 20th - 23rd
41st Annual Humboldt Film Festival, Arcata CA. March 24- 30th, 2008
International Festival of Short Films on Culture, Jaipur India. March 27th - 30th, 2008
The London International Documentary Film Festival, UK. March 29th - April 6th, 2008
5th Annual Akron Independent Film Festival, Akron Ohio. April 3 - 6th, 2008
Riverside International Film Festival, Riverside CA. April 11th - 20th, 2008
11th Annual Cine Las Americas International Film Festival, Austin TX. April 16th -
24th,
Athens International Film Festival April 25th - May 1st, 2008
5th International Danville International Children's Film Festival, May 16th - 18th, 2008
Ohio Independent Film Festival, Cleveland OH. May 4th -11th, 2008
Connecticut Film Festival, May 20th - 25th, 2008
Green Film Festival in Seoul, Korea May, 22nd -28th 2008
Flipside Film Festival, Plymouth UK, May 21st – 31st
Mountain film in Telluride, CO. May 22-26th
Winnipeg International Film Festival May 27 – June 7 2008
Seattle True Independent Film Festival, June 6th – 15th
SILVERDOCS: AFI / Discovery Channel Film Festival, DC. June 16th - 23rd, 2008
Long Island International Film Expo, New York. July 9 - 17. 2008
40th Auckland International Film Festival, New Zealand July 10 - 27, 2008
37th Wellington Film Festival, New Zealand July 17 - August 3, 2008
Globians Documentary Festival, Potsdam Germany August 8 - 17th, 2008
Palm Springs International Short Film Festival, August 21 -27th, 2008

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Big Bear Lake International Film Festival, CA September 11 - 14th, 2008
Gig Harbor Film Festival, September 11th – 12th, 2008
Port Townsend Film Festival, September 26th – 29th, 2008
Chicago International Childrens Film Festival, October 28th – Nov 2nd, 2008
The Wild and Scenic Environmental Film Festival, CA. Jan 9-11, 2009
ReFrame Peterborough International Film Festival, ON. Canada, Jan 23rd - 25th, 2009
Documentary Fortnight at The Museum of Modern Art Feb 11th – 29th, 2009
New York International Children's Film Festival, NY, NY. March 1st, 2009
Sabastapol Documentary Festival, CA March 2009
Tiburon International Film Festival, CA. March 19 - 27th, 2009

[non-festival Screenings] 2008

Visual Praxis Collective: University of Washington, Simpson Center for the Humanities,
Seattle: January 30th

Social Documentary Film Society: University of Cambridge UK Feb. 27th

Cornish College of the Arts: Screening and Q&A March 16th 2008

Puesta del Sol Elementary School March 26th, 2008: with Q&A and artistic activity

New Filmmakers: Anthology Film Archives, New York NY. May 7th, 2008

[synopsis] (127 words)

“Ice from the mountain tastes sweeter”

Eighty two year old Maji has spent her life in the small community of Warqa nestled high in the Peruvian Andes. Maji’s son and Grandson earn their livelihood by harvesting mountain ice for *Shikashika*. Extracting and selling ice is the family business and Maji has witnessed three generations of family work in this trade. Twice each week Maji and her family make the eight mile trek up to the glacier where they harvest the clearest blocks of blue ice with bare hands and axe and then transport them down the mountain. The ice is then sold at the steps of a cathedral in the valley far below. The film reveals a rhythmic portrait of life and work in the Peruvian highlands.

[about the director]

b. Utah, 1971 Stephen Hyde is a Seattle-based new filmmaker working on short documentaries in Latin America. His approach to filmmaking is “landscape-based.” Hyde studied Geography and spatial science at the University of Washington where he still teaches an annual cartography class. Hyde is currently at work doing fund raising and pre-production research for new films.

[director's statement]

I became inspired to make a short film about ice merchants in the Peruvian Andes after my friend and music composer, Jim Sykes, relayed the story to me in an email from his cinema café in Huaraz, Peru. In September of 2006 I traveled to Peru with musician Stan Dunster to collaborate with Sykes and Gladys Jimenez to make a music-driven documentary short about the process of harvesting glacial ice for shikashika sold by the local street vendors in the towns along the front range of the Cordillera Blanca mountains.

The mountainous region where we filmed is visually spectacular. The jagged Cordillera Blanca mountain peaks rise well above 20,000 feet. The mountain valleys below once supported the ancient civilization of the Huari culture. Ruins of granite buildings are encountered while walking through the valleys below these rugged peaks. It's a perfect setting for a film.

We spent one month shooting this short film. A small crew of four – we hiked into the highlands to meet some of the local ice merchants. There are about twenty families that earn their livelihood harvesting ice. After several days of observing their work practices, (and working a bit ourselves) we approached Jorje Bonilla Portal and reached a business agreement with his family to be in our film. The film itself reveals a rhythmic portrait of life and work in a seldom seen part of the world.

My intention with this film has been two-fold: to become more acquainted with the Andean families that I had encountered on my earlier travels to Peru; and to learn more about customs and cultural work practices. I hope I have created an opportunity for viewers of this film to experience the same.

[Production Notes]

[post-production and technical]

Post Production was conducted at WORLD FAMOUS in Seattle. The color film transfer (Digital Betacam) was edited on an Avid and finished on Digital Betacam. Sound design and mixing was done by Andy Seaver and Mark Clem. 35mm show-print pending.

Film processing and preparation for telecine was done at Alpha Cine, Seattle. The film transfer and color correction was done by Eric Rosen at Flying Spot Film Transfer, Seattle. The transfer was mastered on Digital Betacam for NTSC 29.97. Field audio was captured at 48khz with 16bits on a Marantz PMD660 (solid state) and a Sennheiser MKH 60 P48

Shikashika was shot using two cameras. The (a) camera is a 16 mm Bell and Howell Filmo DR with Angeniux 10mm F1.8, 15mm F1.8 and 75mm F1.8 The (b) camera is a Beaulieu 4008ZMII with a Schneider 6 -66 F 1.8 lens all footage was shot at 24fps using Kodak Vision 2 color negative film stocks. The bulk of the film was shot on Kodak 7201 50D with some scenes shot on 7205 250D and S8/7217.

[Film Credits]

Producer, Director, Camera: Stephen J. Hyde

Associate Producers: Mark Clem
Stan Dunster
Gladys Jimenez
Megan Lingafelter
Jim Sykes

Editor: Alan Nay (WORLD FAMOUS)

Location Sound: Stan Dunster

Sound Mix: Andy Seaver (WORLD FAMOUS)
Mark Clem

Music: “En El Cielo De Las Estrellas”
By Jesus Francisco Rivera Anaya

“Carrito De Regreso”
By Ernesto Sanchez Farjardo

“ice”,
By: James William Sykes

Translators: Christian Alvarado Huaranga
Gladys Jimenez
Jim Sykes

Lab Services: Alpha Cine Lab, Seattle

Colorist: Eric Rosen
Flying Spot Film Transfer, Seattle]

website: www.shikashika.com

This film was made with support from:

CARTAH
Center for Advanced Research Technology in the Arts and Humanities
University of Washington, Seattle

Soul Kitchen Studios , Seattle

WORLD FAMOUS

Huaraz Satyricon Cinema, Peru

[contact Information]

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