

SOUTH AFRICAN SHARK CONSERVANCY presents

40Fathoms Film Festival

| beyond the shore |

The South African Shark Conservancy (SASC) invites submissions from filmmakers to the third **40Fathoms Film Festival**. **40Fathoms Film Festival** was conceived to celebrate World Oceans Day and aims to highlight African underwater filmmaking talent and emphasize marine conservation concerns and success stories on a regional and global scale.

WHAT IS WORLD OCEANS DAY?

The oceans cover about 70% of Earth's surface. They generate 80% of the oxygen we breathe, provide bountiful food for billions of people and regulate our climate. Not only do the oceans give us the resources we need to survive on a daily basis, but they have also been a source of spiritual and cultural inspiration since the dawn of man. Despite our indisputable connection to the oceans, however, it is increasingly obvious these systems are under threat and humans are to blame.

World Oceans Day, celebrated each year on June 8th, is officially recognised by the United Nations as the day on which we can all demonstrate our solidarity for the conservation of our Blue Planet by taking action and making our voices heard. It is the day where we celebrate and honour the oceans as one. As part of our commitment to conserving the oceans, SASC will be making each and every World Oceans Day one of unique celebration and awareness-raising through a fun, educational and entertaining film festival with a difference: the **40Fathoms Film Festival**.

June 5th, 2015 marks the 3rd annual **40Fathoms Film Festival**. Held in the picturesque coastal village of Hermanus the Festival will be held over three days. Both short and feature films are welcome. Submissions from amateur filmmakers will also be accepted for the Viewer's Choice component of the Festival.

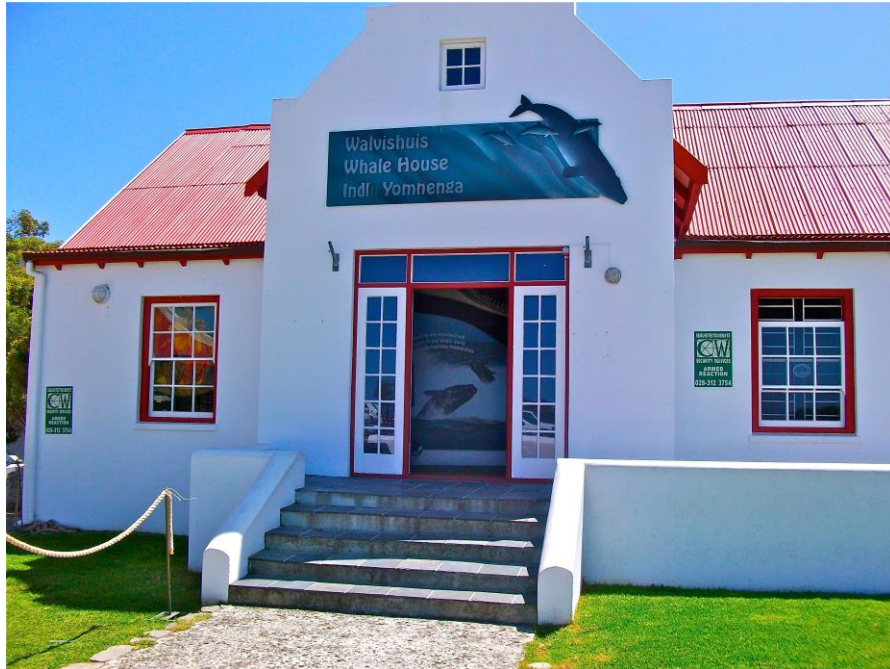
40Fathoms Film Festival is not a commercial event. It is intended this festival raise public awareness about issues facing the oceans today and provide them with the tools to make a tangible difference. Submissions and public entry to **40Fathoms Film Festival** are free. Donations to support SASCs research and outreach projects are welcome.

VENUE

Whale House Museum, Hermanus, Western Cape

SEATING CAPACITY

About 65

**FEES**

None. Entrants will be expected to cover costs associated with postage to SASC, as well as travel to and accommodation in Hermanus if desired.

DONATIONS

Donations at screenings will be accepted. Donations will be used to support SASC research and outreach projects.

IMPORTANT DATES

FRIDAY, MAY 22nd

- SUBMISSION DEADLINE @ NOON.

FRIDAY, JUNE 5th

- Festival opening
- Overstrand Municipality Deputy Mayor Scholtz will open the Festival. The gala evening will highlight the importance of World Oceans Day and how cinematography & film-making can contribute to increased awareness and conservation. Filmmakers are invited to attend, but travel and accommodation costs will not be covered by SASC.

SATURDAY, JUNE 6th

- Screening of feature films
- Evening discussion panel with marine scientists and conservationists. Open to members of the public.

SUNDAY, JUNE 7th

- Film festival for kids: screening of short films for young audience members
- Festival wrap-up

MORE SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Entrants are requested to send the following for publicity purposes:

- a headshot and brief bio (<150 words)
- up to 4 production stills
- links to trailers
- a brief description of the film (<300 words)

Film specs

- Films between 15-120 minutes are welcome
- 2 x DVD PAL copies of the film must be submitted to SASC

The only strict guideline for submissions is that films must have a marine focus and have been produced after January 2011. Entrants are invited to contact Meaghen McCord at info@sharkconservancy.org for more information about **40Fathoms Film Festival** and the address for posting submissions.

For more information about SASC and our projects

(W) www.sharkconservancy.org (FB) South African Shark Conservancy; 40Fathoms Film Festival (TW) @SASC3