

# Film festival's focus is women

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LunaFest, says local film producer/director Linda Spalazzi, is that rare festival featuring short films "by women, for women, about women's issues."

This year's 10-film, 90-minute, international lineup ranges from an 80-second animated short to a 21-minute family drama in Icelandic, with English subtitles.

Two-thirds of the filmmakers are under 30, and their films are from Africa, Central and South America, France, Iceland, Ireland, Japan and the U.S.

LunaFest unreels Tuesday and Wednesday at the Cincinnati Art Museum, presented by Cincinnati World Cinema and the YWCA.

Spalazzi, whose "Empty Chairs and Painful Windows" was inspired by artwork with a theme of domestic violence, will be a discussion leader.

She previewed the films and says the topics are universal, and the films, selected from more than 200, get better each year.

This year's line-up includes:

• "Make a Wish," a 12-minute, wryly funny film about an 11-year old Palestinian girl who will do whatever it takes to buy a birthday cake. The Filmmaker is University of Cincinnati grad Cherien

# If you go

What: LunaFest Film Festival

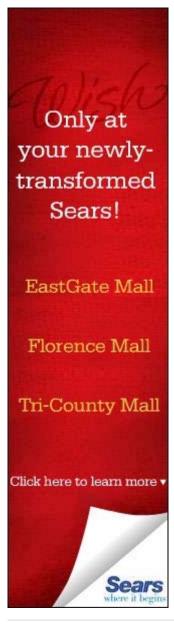
When: 7 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday

Where: Cincinnati World Cinema, Cincinnati Art

Museum Fath Auditorium, Eden Park

Tickets: \$9 general admission. 859-781-8151 and

www.cincyworldcinema.org.



Dabis. In Arabic with English subtitles.

- "Family Reunion," about a woman with a secret returning to her native Iceland. In Icelandic and English, with subtitles.
- "My Other Mother," from South Africa, about grieving and the acceptance of loss.
- "The Guarantee," 11-minute, animated film about body image.
- "Empty Chairs and Painful Windows," directed by Linda Spalazzi, interviews kids and family members who have felt the impact of domestic violence.

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An image from Colombian director Marlon Vásquez Silva's short, animated film, which will be screened at LunaFest Tuesday.

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