



HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL USA
GOLDEN GATE COUNCIL OF AMERICAN YOUTH HOSTELS
Promoting a greater understanding of the world and its people through hostelling.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NEW INDEPENDENT FILM "ETIENNE!" (A.K.A. THE HAMSTER MOVIE)
SCREENS AT THE PIGEON POINT LIGHTHOUSE AND MARIN HEADLANDS HOSTELS
JUNE 19 AND 20, 2009, 8 P.M.

San Francisco, CA – The Pigeon Point Lighthouse Hostel and the Marin Headlands Hostel will host special screenings of the new independent feature film *Etienne!*, at 8:00 p.m. on June 19 and 20 respectively. Both hostels served as shooting locations for the film, which follows a young man who takes his terminally ill hamster on the bicycle road trip of a lifetime. Writer-director Jeff Mizushima, lead actor Richard Vallejos, and producer Giacun Caduff will be in attendance at the screenings.

Mizushima's intention for the film was to tell this "tiny" story as if it were made in a different era. No sex, violence, or drugs – just a small and personable story about the relationship between humans and their animal companions. When Richard (played by Richard Vallejos) learns that his best friend, a dwarf hamster named Etienne, must be euthanized, he decides to take him out to see the world. The pair travel up the California coast, stopping along the way at picturesque spots including the Davenport cliffs, Henry Cowell State Park, and Mount Tamalpais.

Etienne! also stars Megan Harvey and Caveh Zahedi, and includes an appearance and performance by L.A. indie pop band Great Northern. The film makes its world premiere at the CineVegas Film Festival on June 12, and screens at the San Francisco United Film Festival on June 18. For more information about the film, visit www.hamstermovie.com.

The Pigeon Point Lighthouse and Marin Headlands hostels are operated by the Golden Gate Council of Hostelling International USA, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting intercultural understanding, environmental stewardship, and world peace through travel. The Marin Headlands Hostel is an Authorized Concessioner of the National Park Service.

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ATTENTION: CALENDAR EDITORS

SCREENING #1

WHAT: Free screening of "Etienne!" (The Hamster Movie)

WHEN: Friday, June 19, 2009, 8:00 p.m.

WHERE: Pigeon Point Lighthouse Hostel, 210 Pigeon Point Road, Pescadero, CA 94060

ADMISSION: Free

MORE INFO/CONTACT: (650) 879-0633; info@pigeonpointhostel.org; www.pigeonpointhostel.org

SCREENING #2

WHAT: Free screening of "Etienne!" (The Hamster Movie)

WHEN: Saturday, June 20, 2009, 8:00 p.m.

WHERE: Marin Headlands Hostel, Fort Barry, Building 941, Sausalito, CA 94965

ADMISSION: Free

MORE INFO/CONTACT: (415) 331-2777; info@marinhostel.org; www.marinhostel.org

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