

# MASS MoCA

For Immediate Release  
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## Get Ready for the World Cup with Kicking & Screening at MASS MoCA

(North Adams, Massachusetts) – On Friday, April 23, and Saturday, April 24, MASS MoCA hosts a two-day festival of film and activities celebrating the passion, athleticism, and wildly fervent nationalism of soccer. As the biggest two weeks in world sport approach — the World Cup takes place in South Africa from June 11 through July 11, 2010 — Kicking & Screening presents film, panels and remarkable feats of soccer skill celebrating the passion and pageantry of the game. In addition to a full schedule of feature films and shorts, highlights of Kicking & Screening will include an afternoon of entertainment for the whole family during school vacation week with soccer films and an amazing team of soccer jugglers, and, on Saturday afternoon, a panel discussion with professional soccer players, officials, and filmmakers.

The festival kicks off on Friday, April 23, at 1:00 PM with the screening of the family friendly film *Sixty Six* followed by a rousing and astounding performance by a troupe of soccer jugglers at 3 PM. *Sixty Six* is set in the summer of '66 when England is about to be consumed by World Cup Fever. For 12 year-old Bernie, the biggest day of his life is looming: his Bar Mitzvah. But with his family increasingly distracted by the threat of losing their business and their wayward older son, the scale of Bernie's Bar Mitzvah diminishes daily. Worst of all the World Cup Final is scheduled to take place on the same day. When England makes it through the qualifying rounds, Bernie's much anticipated Bar Mitzvah looks set to be a complete disaster.

On Friday, April 23, at 8 PM, the festival continues with *Les Yeux Dans Les Bleus*, a penetrating documentary that follows the 1988 World Cup victorious French team. With intimate access to the players, director Stephane Meunier captured the extremes of emotion that make soccer and its characters so compelling. He shares their rituals, their doubts, their joys, their exploits and in the end, their conquest, creating a film that makes the viewer feel as if he were part of the team.

Saturday, April 24, will feature a matinee presentation at 1 PM of a series of short films: *In the Blood*, which documents the real-life struggles and triumphs of a lower division soccer team and its dedicated community of supporters in working class England; and *Mauro Shampoo – Soccer Player*,

Hairdresser and Macho about an ex- soccer player from the city of Recife, in Brazil, who having made only one goal in his entire career, became famous as a symbol of Ibis Sport Club that entered the Guinness Book of Records as "The Worst Soccer Team in the World". With a lot of humor Mauro manages to turn his misfortune into triumph. The last short , Beyond Soccer (Loucos de Futebol), reveals the authentic Brazilian passion for football and proves that the most popular sport on earth is much more than just 22 men running after a ball.

The Saturday afternoon films will be followed at 4 PM by a panel discussion on the World Cup in Africa. Panelists will include a Nigerian soccer player from Boston and the head of the Soccer Federation.

Saturday evening's feature film at 8:00 PM will be 90 Minutes, in which director Ab Winsemius follows a diverse group of New Yorkers from the 32 countries participating in the 2006 World Cup, as they experience the tournament in the city. Viewers get a peak into their lives and dreams and their passion for the game. This heartwarming and exciting portrait of the diversity of New York City — a city which is home to 2.8 million immigrants from 185 countries — is told through the prism of the world's greatest sport event

Festival passes which include tickets to all films, the soccer jugglers, and the panel discussion are \$25 for adults and \$15 for students and kids. Tickets for individual events are \$8 for adults and \$5 for students and kids. MASS MoCA members receive a 10% discount. Tickets are available through the MASS MoCA Box Office located off Marshall Street in North Adams. Tickets can also be charged by phone by calling 413.662.2111 during Box Office hours or purchased on line at [www.massmoca.org](http://www.massmoca.org). Snacks and Herrell's ice cream from Lickety Split and full bar are available before and during the films.

In addition to Kicking & Screening Film Festival, on Saturday, April 24, MASS MoCA will hold the opening reception for Material World: Sculpture as Environment from 5:30 – 7:30 PM. The exhibition features new immersive installations by six sculptors known for their use of surprisingly modest materials including paper, plastic, rope, and cardboard. Tickets for the opening, which is sponsored by Barefoot Wines, are free for members and \$6 for not-yet-members, and can be reserved by calling the membership department at 413 664 4481 x8112.

MASS MoCA, the largest center for contemporary visual and performing arts in the United States, is located off Marshall Street in North Adams on a 13-acre campus of renovated 19<sup>th</sup>-century factory buildings. MASS MoCA is an independent 501c(3) whose operations and programming are funded through admissions and commercial lease revenue, corporate and foundation grants, and individual philanthropy. Except for an initial construction grant from the Commonwealth, and competitive program and operations grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the

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Massachusetts Cultural Council, MASS MoCA is privately funded: 90% of annual operating revenues are from earned revenues, membership support, and private gifts and grants.