

## **JENNIFER**

USA - 5min – 2008

<http://gohomefatboy.com/jennifer.html>

In the short film 'Jennifer', filmmaker Stewart Copeland explores his relationship with his mother through a recorded conversation between eighth-grade students and astronauts aboard the international space station. Utilizing home movies, found footage, ambient music and voice over, combined with Copeland's own imagery, the film explores the distant spaces between memory and history; hope and fear; longing and loss, creating something both personal and universal.

## **FILMMAKER BIO**

Stewart Copeland was born in Tullahoma Tennessee and moved to St. Louis where he majored in film production at Webster University. While a student at Webster, Stewart took an interest in documentary film. His first short documentary was "In The Glow." During his final year of college, Stewart's mother, Jennifer Copeland, passed away. After taking a semester off to be with his family, Stewart worked for 9 months on "Jennifer." The film has played many festivals in America and won The Best Mini-Doc Award at the Big Sky Documentary Film Festival. Stewart now lives in Tennessee where he is working on his first feature length documentary.

## **SCREENINGS**

+ The Big Sky International Documentary Film Festival

FEB 13-22 2009

+ The Sebastopol Documentary Film Festival

MAR 6-8 2009

+ Nashville Film Festival

APR 21 & 23 2009

+ The Atlanta Film Festival

APR 22 & 24 2009

+ Broadcast Premiere POV on PBS

SEPT 22

+ Indie Memphis

OCT 9 2009

## **AWARDS**

*Best Mini-Doc* / Big Sky Documentary Film Festival

*Tennessee Independent Spirit Award for Short Film* / Nashville Film Festival

## **PRESS**

### Directors Notes Interview and Video

*After the passing of his mother, director Stewart Copeland embarked on the creation of the documentary Jennifer to address the issues of loss and how a person's absence can alter the atmosphere of the places they used to occupy for those left behind. Stewart joins us to discuss the difficulties of creating such a personal film whilst ensuring it remains accessibility to a wider audience.*

**<http://www.directorsnotes.com/2009/09/02/jennifer-stewart-copeland/>**

### POV Official Page

*Filmmaker Stewart Copeland explores his feelings about his mother by focusing on a key moment in her life — when she led her eighth grade students in their project contacting astronauts aboard the International Space Station. The project was successful, and the students' conversation with the astronauts was recorded. It survives as documentation of Copeland's mother and the moment is now remembered as a great one in her life. In rediscovering this personal footnote in history, Copeland expresses his love and admiration for his late mother.*

**<http://www.pbs.org/pov/jennifer/>**

### SCAN Blog

*Stewart Copeland's ( B.A., Film Production, 2008) documentary "Jennifer" — a film produced as part of Copeland's senior thesis at Webster University — will be air Sept. 22 on PBS as part of the program POV.*

*POV (a cinema term for "point of view") is television's longest-running showcase for independent non-fiction films. Since 1988, the program has presented more than 275 films to public television audiences across the country. POV films are known for their intimacy, their unforgettable storytelling and their timeliness, putting a human face on contemporary social issues.*

*Copeland's short film explores his relationship with his mother through a recorded conversation between eighth-grade students and astronauts aboard the international space station. It premiered earlier this year at the Big Sky Documentary Film Festival in Missoula, Mont. "Jennifer" was awarded the prize for "Best MiniDoc" at the festival.*

*"I was lucky enough to serve as Stewart's faculty mentor on the project, so I knew it pretty well," said Mike Steinberg, an adjunct professor at Webster University and Big Sky festival director. "It's a great film."*

**<http://blogs.webster.edu/scan/2009/07/stewart-copelands-documentary-jennifer-to-air-on-pbs/>**