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For Immediate Release

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Close Friends Reconnect at NYC NewFest 2007

By sheer coincidence, two featurettes by Nelson Sullivan, the black-box videographer of 1980s New York, will be premiering alongside the movie '**Starrbooty**', by Nelson's close friend RuPaul, at NYC's NewFest 2007 Film Festival, May 31 - June 10 2007.

Nelson Sullivan and his video camera were an integral part of the subcultural playground that was New York in the 1980s. He had an almost preternatural ability to find and shoot the most interesting people.

When RuPaul's long legs leapt off a bus from Atlanta in 1983, Nelson was there to shoot her first baby-Supermodel steps. Their lives intertwined throughout the 80s. RuPaul often camped out at Nelson's home at 5 Ninth Avenue and was even there the night Nelson died.

Nelson passed away on The Fourth of July 1989, but his highly visceral work is just starting to live large. Nelson's video archive (1,800+ hours of tape) chronicles the formative years of many influential underground icons who built, borrowed, forged and smoked the Downtown legend. Surrounded by posh clubs, seedy apartments, movie stars, rock 'n roll, and their alter-egos, some of these budding icons blossomed (RuPaul, Lady Bunny, Lypsinka, Dee-lite) and others saw their careers end early and sadly (John Sex, Keith Haring, Leigh Bowery, Ethyl Eichelberger, Michael Alig).

Nelson Sullivan's videos have been exhibited on television in Europe and in theatres, galleries and museums in Europe, South America and Australia; yet, Nelson Sullivan's videos have seldom appeared in the United States. Today The Meat Market that Nelson called home is a hipster shopping district; the house where Nelson lived at 5 Ninth Avenue is a chichi restaurant; RuPaul is an international superstar debuting an exciting new movie. So it's nice that young and old New Yorkers get a chance to travel back in time and experience a Downtown that used to be.

The two Nelson Sullivan videos premiering at NewFest are:

'Nelson & Christina'

Wednesday 6 June 2007 (8:15 pm, AMC Loews 34th Street Theater)

Nelson accompanies mysterious, transgendered artist Christina – portrayed as a shock cameo in the movie 'Party Monster' by Marilyn Manson – from her apartment at the glorious Chelsea Hotel to the infamous Pyramid Club to see transsexual punk rocker Jayne County.

'Amnesia at Gay Day'

Saturday 9 June 2007 (6:00 pm, AMC Loews 34th Street Theater)

Frocked-up and made-up by RuPaul, Nelson goes to NYC's 1989 Gay Pride parade and encounters numerous notables along the way. Featuring: RuPaul, Larry Tee, George Wayne, Lahoma Van Zandt, David Dalrymple, Trade, Eric Conrad, Chicklet, David Spada and The Connie Girl.

For more information or a screener on DVD contact:

Robert Coddington 323-206-2620

<http://www.nelsonsullivan.tv/press.html>

NewFest 2007: The 19th New York Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgender Film Festival runs from May 31 – June 10 2007.

www.newfest.org

Nelson Sullivan's videos are distributed by Funtone.com.

Nelson Sullivan's videos are being restored and archived by Robert Coddington.

All Nelson Sullivan videos are from the collection of Dick Richards.

"When I moved to NYC NELSON SULLIVAN became my guardian and teacher.

NELSON taught me the history of being gay, as it related to film, literature, politics, music, art and NEW YORK CITY. it was understood that i would in turn pass this knowledge on to the next generation of young gays that i encountered, who pass it on to their children, and so on and so forth."

*- written by RuPaul on his blog
June 6, 2006*



[Nelson Sullivan and RuPaul at 5 Ninth Avenue](#)

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