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Film Series at The BCA Center: Nuclear Holocaust Films of the 1980's

Burlington, VT: (September 26, 2011) Beginning Thursday, October 6th for three weeks, The BCA Center presents a film series called *That's All Folks: Nuclear Holocaust Films of the 80s*. This series presents a time capsule of rarely seen films from the early 1980s, highlighting the cultural and political mood of the time period. All films begin at 7:00pm on the Second Floor of The BCA Center, and are free, donations are accepted.

During the early 1980's, Cold War tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union led to heightened public awareness and fear about the possibility of nuclear war. Out of this focus and fear of the potential effects of nuclear holocaust, Hollywood and the mainstream media produced many films for television and theaters around this subject. Most notably in the United States was the made for TV film *The Day After*, starring Jason Robards and Steve Guttenberg, and Hollywood films such as *Wargames* and *Red Dawn*. The film series *That's All Folks* showcases three films that have rarely been seen in the United States, and are currently unavailable or out of print.

Thursday, October 6th, 7:00pm: **Threads**

1984, United Kingdom, 110 Minutes, Unrated (Mature Audiences), Director: Mick Jackson; Awards: 1985 BAFTAs for Design, Photography, Editing, and Best Single Drama

As the United Kingdom prepares for war, families in England deal with their own personal crises. As open warfare between NATO and the USSR-led Warsaw Pact begins, the viewer witnesses the harrowing details of the characters' struggle to survive the attacks. The balance of the film details the medical, economic, social, and environmental

consequences of a nuclear war. Both the plot and the atmosphere of the film are extremely bleak.

Thursday, October 13th, 7:00pm: **When The Wind Blows**

1986, United Kingdom, 80 Minutes, Animated, Unrated, Director: Jimmy Murakami; features original soundtrack by Roger Waters, and music by David Bowie, Genesis and more.

When the Wind Blows depicts a nuclear attack on the UK by the Soviet Union from the viewpoint of a retired couple in who live in rural English countryside and are confused regarding the nature and seriousness of their situation, following directives from their government on preparedness during nuclear attack. The couple's situation becomes steadily more hopeless as they suffer from the effects of radiation sickness.

Thursday, October 20th, 7:00pm: **Special Bulletin**

*1983, United States, 105 Minutes, Made for Television, Unrated, Director: Edward Zwick; Awards: Four Emmys in 1983, Outstanding Drama Special, Direction, Editing and Writing. Special Bulletin is an American made-for-TV movie first broadcast in 1983. It was an early collaboration between director Edward Zwick and writer Marshall Herskovitz, a team that would later produce such series as *thirtysomething* and *My So-Called Life*. A terrorist group brings a homemade atomic bomb aboard a tugboat in the harbor of Charleston, South Carolina in order to blackmail the U.S. Government into disabling its nuclear weapons, and the incident is caught live on television. The movie simulates a series of live news broadcasts on the fictional RBS Network.*

The film series *That's All Folks* is an important part of Burlington City Arts, celebrating 30 years of supporting the arts, 1981-2011, which is dedicated to the promotion of excellence, experimentation, and education in all forms of contemporary art. For more information about gallery exhibitions, special events, classes and workshops, please call 802.865.7166 or visit BURLINGTONCITYARTS.ORG.

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