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2009 Urban Nomad film festival opens in Taipei

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Taipei, April 23 (CAN) The 2009 Urban Nomad Film Fest officially opened Thursday at the Taipei Artist Village (TAV) and Nanhai Gallery, according to the Taipei office of the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT).

"The AIT is pleased to co-sponsor the 2009 Urban Nomad Film Fest and has invited Brent Hoff, noted American editor-in-chief and curator of an innovative San Francisco-based DVD magazine called Wholphin, to attend the festival and discuss his career and projects," the AIT said in a press release.

Wholphin magazine collects rare and unseen short films, with each issue riding a fine line between delivering solid entertainment and responsible information.

Hosted by the AIT and the TAV, the Urban Nomad Film Fest will run through May 9 in Taipei and Hsinchu, featuring submissions of short films from Taiwan and abroad that discuss this year's theme of "Sex, Drugs and Human Rights." Launched in 2002, Urban Nomad Film Fest is the only underground independent film festival that supports independent filmmaking in Taiwan. It encourages local independent filmmakers to develop contacts with other filmmakers in the region.

Since 2007, when the festival began touring outside Taiwan, it has appeared in Hong Kong, Miami and Basel, Switzerland.

Details on the screenings and seminars at this year's festival are available at the Web site http://urbannomadfilmfest.blogspot.com/.

(By Rachel Chan)

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