

**Opening Night in Victoriaville**  
**Karl Lemieux's *Mamori* to open 26th edition of famed Festival international de musique actuelle de Victoriaville**

Montreal, May 10, 2010 – A screening of the film [\*Mamori\*](#), directed by Karl Lemieux (a native of Kingsey Falls, near Victoriaville), opens the 26th edition of the [Festival international de musique actuelle de Victoriaville](#). The eight-minute film, produced by the National Film Board of Canada, had its world premiere at the Musée d'art contemporain, in Montreal. The Victoriaville screening takes place May 20 and precedes a concert by the group Land of Kush.

*Mamori* is the result of a creative collaboration between Lemieux and Spanish musician [Francisco López](#), one of the leading lights on the international experimental music scene. “*Mamori* was an obvious selection for the festival,” said Michel Levasseur, executive director of the Festival international de musique actuelle de Victoriaville. “Francisco López is a regular at our festival, and we were delighted with the results of his collaboration with Karl Lemieux – particularly given that Karl is a young creator from our region.”

Monique Simard, Director-General of French Program for the NFB, added, “The National Film Board remains true to its mission to innovate in all areas of cinematographic practice, including experimental film. We are proud to be working with bold artists such as Karl Lemieux across the country.”

The Victoriaville screening is the latest honour for *Mamori*. The film was also an official selection of the prestigious Rotterdam International Film Festival and screened at the SXSW Festival, which is devoted to emerging music and film, as well as new media.

*Mamori* (2010) was produced at the National Film Board of Canada by Julie Roy. The NFB Animation Studio, a creative space made legendary by Norman McLaren, welcomed Karl Lemieux for this project, which emerged from an artistic residency organized by Spanish composer Francisco López.

López set up the Mamori Art Lab in the heart of the Amazon rainforest, and invited sound artists to come and make field recordings. Working out of the Art Lab, Lemieux set out to capture the textures of tropical vegetation and its various transformations in a range of light.

Back in the studio, Lemieux refilmed his original digital photos, one photogram at a time, with a 16mm camera. He did photochemical tests on expired colour film and kept only the resulting black-and-white images. The result is an experimental animated film, produced by the coming together of two forms: the acoustic abstraction of López's original music and the visual abstraction of Lemieux's images. *Mamori* is a subtle film that takes shape through the rhythm of the images, sounds and editing.

## Karl Lemieux

A native of Kingsey Falls, near Victoriaville, experimental filmmaker Karl Lemieux studied cinema at Concordia University. He has been interested in the relationship between image and sound ever since his first short film. Together with Daichi Saito, he co-founded the *Double Negative* collective, dedicated to producing and exhibiting experimental films. He has also been a regular participant in concerts and performances in which he projects and manipulates 16mm films live. One such performance took place with the group Pas chic chic as part of the Montreal Musée d'art contemporain's prestigious Nocturnes du Musée series. He has made many short films, including *The Bridge* (1998); *KI* (2001); *Motion of Light/ Mouvement de lumière* (2004), *Western Sunburn* (2007); *Trash and No Star!* (2008); and *Passage* (2008) – which has garnered several Canadian and international awards, including the Grand Prize of the Jury/PHI Group.

### Credits for *Mamori* – 35mm film, 8 min

Direction, Camera and Animation: Karl Lemieux  
 Field Recordings, Composition and Sound Design: Francisco López  
 Producer: Julie Roy, Animation and Youth Studio, NFB  
 Production: National Film Board of Canada

### About the NFB

Canada's public film producer and distributor, the National Film Board of Canada creates social-issue documentaries, auteur animation, alternative drama and digital content that provide the world with a unique Canadian perspective. The NFB is expanding the vocabulary of 21st-century cinema and breaking new ground in form and content through community filmmaking projects, cross-platform media, programs for emerging filmmakers, stereoscopic animation – and more. It works in collaboration with creative filmmakers, digital media creators and co-producers in every region of Canada, with Aboriginal and culturally diverse communities, as well as partners around the world. Since the NFB's founding in 1939, it has created over 13,000 productions and won over 5,000 awards, including 12 [Oscars](#) and more than 90 Genies. The NFB's new website features over 1,400 productions online, and its [iPhone app](#) has become one of the most popular and talked about downloads. Visit [NFB.ca](http://NFB.ca) today and start watching.

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For downloadable hi-res images, go to [onf-nfb.gc.ca/eng/press-room/photo-gallery/](http://onf-nfb.gc.ca/eng/press-room/photo-gallery/).

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