

City Island & Salty Knitters!

A Review by Tom “Sundance” Sims

“City Island” stars Andy Garcia as a prison guard (oh, excuse me “Correctional Officer”) who is an aspiring actor. Problem is, he doesn’t want his wife (played by Julianna Margulies) to know about it—says he’s going to play poker when he’s really in an acting class. Brilliant acting all the way around from the cast which also includes Alan Arkin as Garcia’s acting coach. The family is built on not just one but a series of lies (masterpiece snippet of how they all sneak smokes in remote corners of their property so the others don’t see). At the center of this whirlwind of deceit is a son that Garcia finds out he has but can’t bring himself to tell the rest of the family.

And the rest of the family (and cast) is outstanding—some newcomers, some you’ve seen in other films. Ezra Miller as Garcia’s “known” son, Steven Strait as his hunky “undisclosed” son, and Emily Mortimer as Garcia’s acting school classmate. But one of the most outstanding characters in the film isn’t played by an actor at all. It’s the setting, which is City Island—a fishing village located within the Bronx. Fabulously featured in this indie, the island will undoubtedly see a spike in visitors this summer—one of them may be me! Good luck trying to find the “island” at a theater near you—it only has a limited run. But it is absolutely worth the travel!

“Salty Knitters” Video: the Cape May Film investigation begins. With the help of investigative reporter Marya Morgan, Filmmaking Instructor Dennis Zaitsev, and Young Filmmaker Jon Gibson, a short film about the Salty Knitters is on the air—well, on YouTube at least. In less than a week, the video has nearly 600 views, which is even more than the first week of the Cape May Bachelor Auction video that was picked up more than 400 views in its first week (and if you haven’t seen a certain editor strutting in his kilt, I highly recommend you check that out!).

Cape May’s Young Filmmaker Program (YFm), an educational outreach of Cape May Film Festival, jumped on the Salty Knitters bandwagon straight away—knowing there’d be a story somewhere among all that crazy needlework! This is the kind of project we’re encouraging our Young Filmmakers to take on more! Short films about our area (and beyond our area as we expand on our YFm Program. Check out all of the work at <http://www.youtube.com/user/capemayfilm>. And don’t forget to check out our Young Filmmaker camps this year—three in total: first, a camp featuring Hollywood Screenwriter JC Stinson (June 28-July 2); second, a music video camp (July 19-23); third, a “Cape May Shorts” camp featuring film projects around town (August 2-6). Details by emailing capemayfilm@hotmail.com or visiting www.capemayfilm.org.