

Art Museum of South Texas

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: July 20, 2009
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Thursday, July 23, 2009

Live Film Screening at the Art Museum

Beginning at 7 p.m. on Thursday, July 23, at the Art Museum of South Texas, filmmaker **René Pinnell** will screen and discuss his favorite episodes from the hilarious web-based skit comedy series, *Backpack Picnic*. The film screening is free and open to the public.

Pinnell was born in Austin, Texas, and received his BS in Radio/TV/Film from UT-Austin in 2005. He writes, directs and produces for film, television and theater. His work has played internationally at venues ranging from Montreal's Comedy Festival to London's Raindance Film Festival. He was the creator of the Elevator Club, an innovative arts organization that repurposed elevators as gallery spaces, and was recognized by the *Austin Chronicle* for "Most Dada Art Collective." He directed and produced 30 episodes of the web-based skit comedy series, *Backpack Picnic*, and was codirector (with Claire Huie) of *The King of Texas*, a documentary about his uncle, independent filmmaker Eagle Pennell, which screened at the SXSW Film Festival in Austin in 2008.

Thursday's live screening is part of "The Territory" independent film series, which airs Saturdays this summer at 10 p.m. on KEDT-TV Channel 16. "The Territory" is supported by the Arts and Cultural Commission of the City of Corpus Christi, the Art Museum of South Texas, the Texas Commission on the Arts (a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts), and by Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

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