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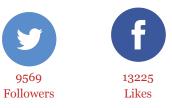


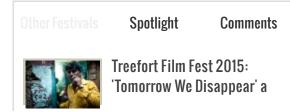
# CIFF 2014: 'The Alley Cat' is an existential drama on the dreamy streets of Chicago

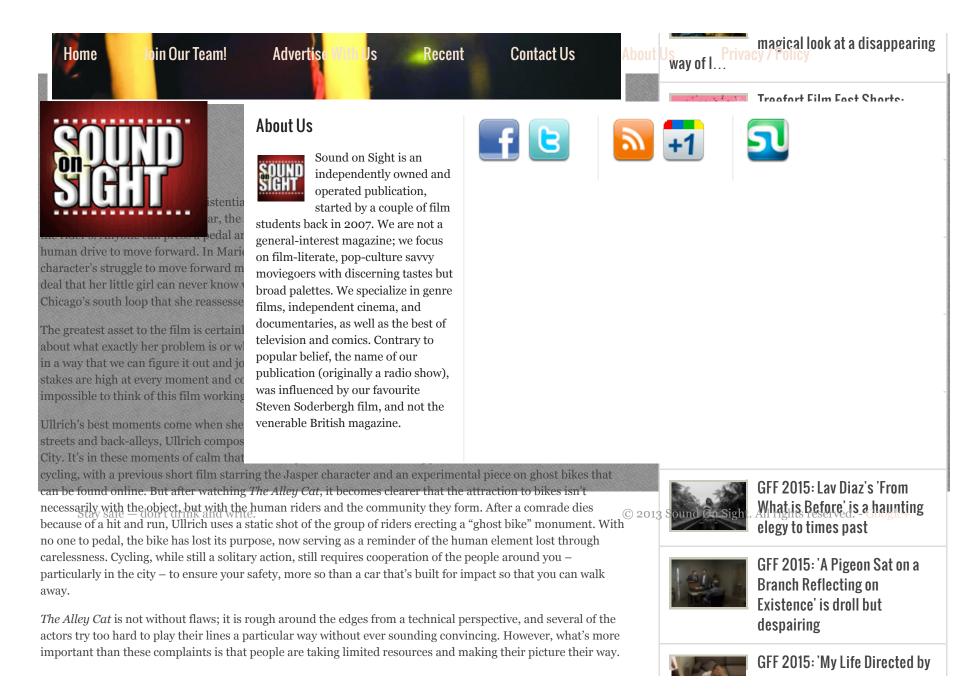
● Posted on October 24, 2014
■ By Jae K. Renfrow
Chicago International Film Festival, Film Festivals











We can't all have access to the best actors, or the resources to pay for a polished sound mix, nor can we wait around for some studio executive to put faith and five million dollars in us. There's an honest soul in this film with great intentions, while trying to tell a different story than what most studios are trying to sell us; stories about community, family, hardships, and personal growth from points of views other than the typical mainstream, white male perspective. These voices - which are many, but not nearly as loud as those with multimillion advertising campaigns – should be supported and encouraged to continue to diversify the artistic landscape. One day, when the Avengers and the Transformers have gone to sleep, we'll want to know about each other, and we'll have to look to some no-budget director in middle-America, free of the entertainment industrial complex, to help us figure it out. Hopefully one of those voices is Marie Ullrich's.

Chicago International Film Festival, CIFF 2014, Indie film, Jenny Strubin, Marie Ullrich

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### By Jae K. Renfrow



Jae K. Renfrow is a Chicago actor, writer, father, nuclear physicist, theoretical philosopher, but above all he's a man. A hopelessly inquisitive man. Just like you. And he wants to get you on a slow boat to China. To get on that boat, you can read more of his work at jaekrenfrow.blogspot.com/ or follow him on the Twitter @jaekrenfrow.



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