

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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FESTIVAL INFO & TICKETS

269-857-8351
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www.waterfrontfilm.org

Blue Dahlia to open Waterfront Film Festival

SAUGATUCK, MICHIGAN – Water Street will be transformed into an open-air festival with live music, a sneak peek of the films to be shown during the weekend, and a screening of Clara Bow's classic "It" accompanied by Michigan's own Blue Dahlia. The event is free and open to all ages. Waterfront Film Festival beer by Bell's Brewery in Kalamazoo, wine and other concessions will be available for sale. The public is encouraged to bring chairs or blankets.

The following page includes more information on Blue Dahlia and the opening film.

Opening Night details are as follows:

WHEN: Thursday, June 10, 2004

7 pm Street party begins

9:30 pm Trailers of select festival films will be shown

10 pm Screening of "It" begins

WHERE: On Water Street between Main and Mary Streets in downtown Saugatuck

Call 269-857-8351 for festival information, or visit www.waterfrontfilm.org

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FESTIVAL FOUNDERS

Dana DePree • Dori DePree • Hopwood DePree • Kori Eldean • Judy Smith

bLuE daHLia

accompanies Clara Bow's famous flapper flick *IT*
at Saugatuck's Waterfront Film Festival



Blue Dahlia, Kalamazoo's premiere modern music quartet, brings its unique blend of vintage silent film and modern music to the the Waterfront Film Festival on June 10th (www.waterfrontfilm.org). A special outdoor opening night screening of Clara Bow's *It* will be accompanied by the band's live performance of their original modern soundtrack-- designed with the idea of giving "silent" Clara Bow a modern feminine voice.

It is a 1927 romantic comedy about sex appeal and how to get your man. Based on an article in *Cosmopolitan* by Elinor Glyn, "It" is referred to in the film as, "that peculiar quality which some persons possess that attracts others of the opposite sex". Clara Bow-- The IT Girl-- sets her sights on her dashing boss, department store mogul Cyrus Waltham. When he fails to notice her, she really pours on the charm! The ensuing mayhem proves Bow to be the quintessential flapper: just gushing with "it" and tons of fun! Watch for Gary Cooper's first film appearance, too. Blue Dahlia plays live music with film, taking the place of the organ player that was the typical accompaniment of the silent era. Don't expect melodramatic silent movie cliches—Blue Dahlia brings this classic into the hearts of today's audiences by using modern, multi-stylistic music that connects past and present. The result is full of history and hilarity that's fun and appropriate for all ages!

Blue Dahlia is a unique modern music quartet, specializing in their own genre: world art fusion music for everyone. With artistic sensibilities stretching around the globe and across time, this group has an unusually broad range of appeal. With a certain modernity, Blue Dahlia sends traces of far-away places rippling through each composition. A label for this group? They tread easily through samba, tango, spoken-word, and waltz, trading blues for rock and rock for bluegrass. They mix hammered dulcimer and mandolin with lyrics in Czech, French, and Japanese. Touted by the Detroit Free Press as, "more adventurous than anyone else dares to be", Blue Dahlia's creative signature knows no bounds.

A successful creative venture since 1995, Blue Dahlia continues to expand its musical horizons. The group's body of work includes numerous recordings, live performance of original soundtracks for silent film, commercial soundtracking, artistic collaboration, and more. Blue Dahlia's film repertoire boasts original scores for Buster Keaton's silent comedies *Seven Chances*, and *The General*, Clara Bow's romantic comedy *It*, and most recently Paul Leni's *The Cat and the Canary*-- an early horror film. Area audiences might have seen the group performing at the East Lansing Film Festival, Vickers' Theatre's Sound of Silents Film Festival, and at theatres around the midwest. Blue Dahlia is: Derek Menchinger- guitars and mandolin, Carolyn Koebel- percussion, Leslie Boughton- vocals and sound effects, Levi Strickland- bass and guitar with special guest Cara Lieurance on flute and backing vocals. Visit www.bluedahlia.com for more information.

Waterfront Film Festival presents Blue Dahlia with Clara Bow's It

Thursday, June 10 screening at 10:00pm (street party at 7pm, festival film trailers at 9:30)

FREE ADMISSION!!

On Water St. between Main and Mary Streets in downtown Saugatuck

call 269 / 857-8351 for festival information, or visit www.waterfrontfilm.org and bluedahlia.com

For information, interviews, current photos, etc. please contact Leslie Boughton:
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269/349-5954 evenings

269/383-4300 days (BEST!)