

MovieMaker

THE ART AND BUSINESS OF MAKING MOVIES

NEW FILMMAKERS LA

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ENRY TURNER, WHO WORKED FOR SIX YEARS as head of filmmaker relations for the Slamdance Film Festival, has opened a film series in Los Angeles called New Filmmakers LA. Like its New York City sibling, New Filmmakers LA is a weekly screening series featuring unsigned, independent features and short films. Among the films that have screened so far are Ben Coccio's *Zero Day*, which won the Grand Prize at the Slamdance Film Festival (see "How They Did It," pg. 26) and two by Jeff Wadlow, winner of the 2002 Chrysler Million Dollar Film Festival.

Like the New York version, which holds screenings at Anthology Film Archives, New Filmmakers LA features a diverse line-up of independent artists. And everyone, from members of the Music Video Producers Association to actor Michael Madsen (who will read from his new book of poems in July) is getting in on the act.

Screenings for New Filmmakers LA are held at CineSpace, an ambitious venue that bills itself as "every movie lover's dream: an upscale restaurant, bar and screening room all rolled into one." The rooms in CineSpace feature plasma, flat-screen monitors, glass walls and mirrors—not to mention dining areas that recall *Blade Runner* and *Brazil*. The large dining and screening room has inclined booths offering comfortable seating and a great view of the night's movie.

The Wednesday night screenings have attracted the attention of many small distribution companies—as well as some not-so-small ones like HBO and New Line. New Filmmakers LA offers everyone, from film buff to distributor to, yes, new filmmaker, the chance to see innovative, original work and, hopefully, to exhibit some of their own.



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