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Home Movie Day DVD Hits Market

"Living Room Cinema: Films from Home Movie Day, vol. 1" celebrates historic home movies, re-creates annual film preservation and public outreach event

Now available from the Center for Home Movies, the **Living Room Cinema DVD** features 22 films that span nearly a century of social, personal, and filmmaking history. All films were originally screened at Home Movie Day events in 2003 and 2004, in locations ranging from Japan to Boston and London. Many films include new commentaries from the filmmakers or their families, making this compilation the first to present home movies as historical documents in their own right, rather than as components of documentaries or collage works.

Contributors to the DVD include **Robbins Barstow**, whose 1936 amateur Tarzan narrative is now part of the motion picture collection at the Library of Congress; experimental filmmaker **Jeanne Liotta**; and New York general store proprietor **Kenny Shopsin**. The films cover a range of subjects, and even familiar events present surprises: At a wedding reception in 1945, guests dance while communicating in sign language; a family celebrates their daughter's first birthday by burying her placenta; and former Dead Boys guitarist **Cheetah Chrome** makes an appearance in a New Haven teenager's footage of high school kids in 1980.

In his introductory essay, film collector and historian Rick Prelinger notes "This DVD is a reference point and a beginning, the first intentional compilation of distinguished, exemplary, surreal and funny home movies. It exposes the best of Home Movie Day to a broader world." Teachers interested in using **Living Room Cinema** in their classes will find curriculum materials online for use with the DVD. The release of **Living Room Cinema** also coincides with the fifth annual **Home Movie Day** event this August, when many more amazing films will be screened live for local audiences in cities worldwide. *Don't miss it!*

More information about the **Living Room Cinema** DVD and **Home Movie Day** can be found online at <u>www.homemovieday.com</u>. Review copies of the DVD are available; to request one, please contact the Center for Home Movies at <u>info@centerforhomemovies.org</u>.