SUNDANCE03 Film Note 5/6/03 11:56 AM

2003 SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

FILM GUIDE

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dramatic competition

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Dopamine

U.S.A., 2003, 90 Minutes, Color [DOPAM]

Director: Mark Decena

Executive Producer: Eric Koivisto **Producers:** Debbie Brubaker, Tad Fettig **Coproducers:** Brian Benson, Timothy

Breitbach, Liz Lupino Decena

Screenwriters: Mark Decena, Timothy

Breitbach

Cinematographer: Rob Humphreys

Editor: Jessica Congdon

Cast: John Livingston, Sabrina Lloyd, Bruno Campos, Rueben Grundy, William Windom,

Nicole Wilder

Presentation Format: Sony HD Cam



More about this Film

As we learn more about the physiological makeup of the body and the brain, are we getting closer to understanding where love comes from and what it is, or will it remain the same life-fulfilling mystery it has always been? For anyone who has ever asked, "Why him, why her, why now?" *Dopamine* (the name of a natural amphetamine our bodies produce when we're falling in love) looks at love from its most rational to its most emotional and fashions a distinctly modern love story.

Rand (John Livingston) is a computer animator, who has created an artificial intelligence creature designed to interact with children and teach them responsibility. When his prototype is forced into practice at a school, Rand encounters Sarah (Sabrina Lloyd), a teacher he was inexplicably drawn to at his favorite bar one fateful evening. Sparks fly between them, but fundamental differences in their approaches to love and relationships slow them down to a halt. Will their differences keep them apart or will love--and maybe a little dopamine--conquer all?

Mark Decena laces *Dopamine* with wit and charm. His assured direction, combined with terrific chemistry between the actors, makes for an outstanding debut by a markedly gifted filmmaker.

--- Trevor Groth ---

Preceded by: Little Failures (U.S.A., 2002, 11 Minutes, Color)

Director: John Dilley After ditching class, 15-year-old skate punk Olive decides she must approach the awkward young boy who has fascinated her for so long.

Date Time Venue Sun, Jan 19 Park City Library Center 2:30pm Mon, Jan 20 **Eccles Theatre** 9:15am Wed, Jan 22 4:00pm Sundance Village Thu, Jan 23 11:30am Park City Library Center Fri, Jan 24 Park City Library Center 8:30pm