

THE CAMBRIDGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND FABULAR FILMS PRESENT

PERKINS 28: Testimony from the Secret Court Files of 1920



This film retells the events of 1920, when Harvard University convened a secret court to interview, charge, and discipline students suspected of homosexuality.

Thirty-seven men testified before the Court including a tutor, an assistant professor, Harvard students and several Boston men. After two weeks of testimony, eight Harvard men were forced to withdraw, one of whom committed suicide. The incident was kept secret for more than eighty years until The Harvard Crimson, the student newspaper, exposed the trial on November 13, 2002.

Based on actual testimony, PERKINS 28: Testimony from the Secret Court Files of 1920 is a dramatic reenactment of the closed room trial, nine intense episodes of testimony before the Court. As an educational document of discrimination in the early 20th Century, the film was shot entirely on location in Cambridge, MA, with an all-male cast of Harvard undergraduates portraying their academic forebears, both the defendants and the members of the Court. Written, produced and directed by Michael Van Devere. (Fabular Films, 2008)

when

Wednesday

March 31st, 2010

6:00 PM

where

Zero Arrow Theater
Harvard Square, corner of
Massachusetts and Arrow
Streets

Michael Van Devere is an author, painter, and filmmaker. He studied fine arts at Houston's acclaimed High School of the Performing and Visual Arts, received a B.F.A. in film at New York's School of Visual Arts, and most recently completed a Masters in English Literature from Harvard University Extension School (ALM '08).

The Cambridge Historical Society has been a repository of history and culture for over 100 years. We are an active non-profit organization and are dedicated to promoting an interest in all aspects of the history and heritage of Cambridge.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE CAMBRIDGE HISTORICAL SOCIETY (617) 547-4252 OR INFO@CAMBRIDGEHISTORY.ORG