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*For Immediate Release*  
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## **Joanna Lipper's Re-Make of "Little Fugitive" Screens at the Brattle Theater on October 4**

**Cambridge** - Harvard's W. E. B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research and the Brattle Theater Film Foundation will co-host a screening of Joanna Lipper's remake of the 1953 classic "Little Fugitive" at the Brattle Theater on Saturday, October 4 at 5:30 p.m. Lipper, a fellow at the Du Bois Institute, will also be on-hand to discuss her film and to elaborate on the issues raised in the drama which include the struggles of latch-key kids essentially left to raise themselves, the challenges faced by children of the incarcerated, and the bureaucracy of the foster-care system. She will also discuss her approach to updating the original "Little Fugitive" directed by Morris Engel, Ruth Orkin, and Ray Ashley which will also screen at the Brattle at 3:45 p.m.

Hailed by *The Economist* as "a moving remake...deftly directed ...an assured mixture of charm and depth..." Lipper's "Little Fugitive," tells the story of 11-year-old Lenny (Nicolas Salgado), his seven-year-old brother Joey (David Castro), their incarcerated father, Sam (Peter Dinklage), and their over-worked mother, Natalia (Justine Machado). As the de-facto "man of the house," Lenny is burdened with the responsibility of caring for Joey and out of frustration and a longing to break free, he decides to play a cruel practical joke on Joey that goes too far. As a result, Joey runs off to nearby Coney Island while Lenny, regretting his actions, searches for him. As night comes, Lenny becomes more and more desperate to find Joey and begins to fear that the worst has befallen his brother. Lipper's film portrays Coney Island from a child's point of view and includes archival sequences narrated by Lenny, who like Lipper, is fascinated by the amusement park and its history.

A new DVD of Lipper's "*Little Fugitive*" has also just been released by Cinema Libre. Best known for distributing social issues films, Cinema Libre is making the film available to youth service and child advocacy programs at special rates for fundraising or educational programs. To

learn more about the film, find out about other “Little Fugitive” screenings in the Massachusetts area, or to view a trailer, please visit, [www.littlefugitive.com](http://www.littlefugitive.com).

The Du Bois Institute is also partnering with The Guidance Center, Inc., a non-profit organization whose mission is to ensure the developmental and mental health of children and families in Cambridge and Somerville. In the late 1990’s, The Guidance Center co-presented a screening at the Brattle of Lipper’s documentary about children and imagination, “Inside Out: Portraits of Children,” which appears as a special bonus feature on the new “Little Fugitive” DVD.

### **About Joanna Lipper**

A distinguished author and filmmaker, Ms. Lipper is a fellow at the Du Bois Institute this academic year. While in residence, she will be working on a film adaptation of Roger King’s novel, *A Girl from Zanzibar*. A passionate advocate of at-risk families and children, she lectures regularly on a range of issues relating to psychology, sociology, and film. Her book, *Growing Up Fast* (Picador 2003) set in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, has been hailed as “a classic book on teenage single mothers.” To learn more about her work, visit [www.joannalipper.com](http://www.joannalipper.com).

**WHAT:** Joanna Lipper’s “Little Fugitive” at the Brattle Theater, 40 Brattle Street, Cambridge, MA, Saturday, October 4, 5:30 p.m. Q&A with Lipper after the screening. Reception immediately takes place at the Du Bois Institute, 104 Mount Auburn Street, 3R, Cambridge, MA. For more information, contact the Du Bois Institute at 617.495.8508 or visit [www.dubois.fas.harvard.edu](http://www.dubois.fas.harvard.edu).

### **About the W. E. B. Du Bois Institute**

The W. E. B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research at Harvard University is the nation's oldest research center dedicated to the study of the history, culture, and social institutions of Africans and African Americans. From its inception in 1975, the Institute has supported the development of both established and emerging scholars. Today, the Institute awards up to twenty fellowships annually to scholars at various stages in their careers in the fields of African and African American Studies. To learn more about the Du Bois Institute, please visit [www.dubois.fas.harvard.edu](http://www.dubois.fas.harvard.edu).

### **About The Brattle Theater Film Foundation**

The Brattle Film Foundation is working toward a time when innovative and essential works of cinema are respected, viewed, and preserved alongside other great works of art. The Foundation is committed to providing audiences access to quality and diverse film presentation, education, and information, in theatres and on-line. To learn more about the The Brattle Film Foundation and its mission, visit, [www.brattlefilm.org](http://www.brattlefilm.org).