Comedian Nick Prueher hosts special screening of The Found Footage Festival at Berkshire Museum Nov. 21

[Pittsfield, Mass.] – The Found Footage Festival, the acclaimed touring showcase of odd and hilarious found videos, is bringing its new 2015 show to the Berkshires. Host Nick Prueher will show off the special Salute to Weirdos program in this one-night-only appearance on Saturday, Nov. 21, at 8 p.m. at the Berkshire Museum’s Little Cinema. Tickets to The Found Footage Festival are $10; refreshments from Wandering Star Brewery will be available beginning at 7 p.m.

The Found Footage Festival is a one-of-a-kind event showcasing videos found at garage sales and thrift stores and in warehouses and dumpsters throughout North America. Curators Joe Pickett and Nick Prueher take audiences on a guided tour of their latest and greatest VHS finds, providing live commentary and where-are-they-now updates on the people in these videotaped obscurities. From the curiously-produced industrial training video to the forsaken home movie donated to Goodwill, The Found Footage Festival resurrects these forgotten treasures and serves them up in a lively celebration of all things found.

Among the clips featured in The Found Footage Festival’s Salute to Weirdos:
• An arts & crafts instructional video by a woman who is psychotically enthusiastic about sponge painting
• A montage of exercise video weirdos, including Angela Lansbury, Traci Lords, and a bearded hippie named Zar
• Outtakes from a series of furniture commercials starring a man called “Bargain Bernie”
• Consummate weirdo Arnold Schwarzenegger in a 1983 travel video called “Carnival In Rio,” seductively feeding a woman a carrot

The Found Footage Festival debuted its first show in New York in 2004 and has gone on to sell out hundreds of shows each year across the U.S. and Canada, including the HBO Comedy Festival and the Just For Laughs Festival. The festival has been featured on Jimmy Kimmel Live!, Late Night with Jimmy Fallon, National Public Radio and has been named a critic’s pick in dozens of publications, including The New York Times, Los Angeles Times, and The Chicago Tribune. The FFF can also be seen twice a week in a popular web series on The Onion’s A.V. Club, in the hit documentary, Winnebago Man, and in their book, VHS: Absurd, Odd and Ridiculous Relics from the Videotape Era.

About The Found Footage Festival curators
Joe Pickett and Nick Prueher began collecting found videotapes in 1991 after stumbling across a training video entitled, “Inside and Outside Custodial Duties,” at a McDonald’s in their home state of Wisconsin. Since then, they have compiled an impressive collection of strange, outrageous, and profoundly stupid videos. Pickett, a writer/director, and Prueher, a former researcher at the Late Show with David Letterman, have written for The Onion and Entertainment Weekly and directed the award-winning documentary, Dirty Country, now available on DVD. They are also the masterminds behind the Kenny “K-Strass” Strasser yo-yo and Chef Keith pranks that hit local morning TV news shows across the Midwest and have since racked up millions of hits on YouTube.

About Little Cinema
Berkshire Museum’s Little Cinema has been showing independent and foreign films for more than 60 years in downtown Pittsfield. Little Cinema is a single screen movie theater inside the Museum; typically, one first-run, independent or foreign film is shown each week.

About the Berkshire Museum
Located in downtown Pittsfield, Massachusetts, at 39 South St., the Berkshire Museum, a Smithsonian Affiliate, is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is $13 adult, $6 child; Museum members and children age 3 and under enjoy free admission. For more information, visit www.berkshiremuseum.org or call 413.443.7171.

In association with the Smithsonian since 2013, Berkshire Museum is part of a select group of museums, cultural, educational, and arts organizations that share the Smithsonian's resources with the nation. Established by Zenas Crane in 1903, Berkshire Museum integrates art, history, and natural science in a wide range of programs and exhibitions that inspire educational connections between the disciplines. American West and Festival of Trees 2015: Westward Ho Ho Ho! are on view through January 3, 2016. Little Cinema is open year-round. Spark!Lab, Feigenbaum Hall of Innovation, Worlds in Miniature, Aquarium, and other exhibits are ongoing.

# # #