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Thanks for Sharing, '83 US Festival: Days 1-3, Furious Beauty: A Hip Hop Family

Cinefiles

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Thanks for Sharing (R)
Lionsgate

A decade ago, 40 Days and 40 Nights asked us to root for Josh Hartnett's erection, perfectly capturing the male-centric entitlement culture of the time. Thanks for Sharing, from writer-director Stuart Blumberg and producer Edward Norton feels like a 2013 genre update; it's just as vanilla and superficial, but lighter on the misogyny and heavier on the shame. Here we get double the self-denial, as Mark Ruffalo and Book of Mormon's Josh Gad play 12-stepping sex addicts. Ruffalo's Adam, being handsome, is tragically distracted by available women while Gad's less attractive Neil is a serial sex offender who should be sitting out the movie in jail. Gwyneth Paltrow is game as the temptress to Ruffalo's smug self-flagellator, and Pink's nuanced performance is a nice surprise. Too bad she's stuck playing Neil's supportive redeemer. What progress? — Justin Strout

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'83 US Festival: Days 1-3 (NR)
MVD Visual

Few music festivals captured the spirit of Woodstock as the 1983 US Festival did. Sure, it was a corporate event — thanks, Steve Wozniak — and some of the bands were among the worst of the '80s. But as the camera pans around the desperately inebriated, feather-haired California concertgoers, it's like a capsule of a better time when a melting pot of music fans gathered under the hot sun and water was plentiful. The lineup is filled with the likes of Men at Work, Berlin, Quarterflash, Missing Persons and, most embarrassingly, multiple sets by Triumph, but, still, it also contained amazing performances from the Clash, Judas Priest and, most rousing, an acrobatic Bono and U2, scaling scaffoldings and waving white flags. What a magical time of mediocrity mingling with masterpieces on one stage, all captured for posterity. — Louis Fowler

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Furious Beauty: A Hip Hop Family (NR)
Cinema Libre Studios

When I watch shows like So You Think You Can Dance, I'm blown away by the hip-hop dance crews doing things that seem gravitationally impossible. In the enchanting documentary Furious Beauty, the Los Angeles dance crew Versa-Style is showcased and you can bet jaws get dropped, both by the group's inspiring rise to fame and those death-defying dance moves. But on a social justice level, this doc also works to dispel all those myths about hip-hop and its "dangerous effects on today's youth" that the mainstream media has put into the brains of many a purse-clutching FOX News watcher. These are all good kids who have risen from nothing to become a story of total hope and perseverance through the self-expression of dance. And, best of all, it's beautiful to watch them do it. — Louis Fowler

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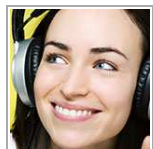
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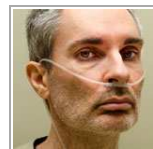
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