

talk about sex during breastfeeding, a topic that generally receives less attention than sex during pregnancy (even the fetish genre of lactation pornography merits a brief mention here). Other speakers include author Fiona Giles (*Fresh Milk: The Secret Life of Breasts*) and Dr. Jack Newman (of the International Breastfeeding Centre). Sure to be popular, this engaging and informative documentary is recommended. Aud: C, P. (K. Fennessy)

## RELATIONSHIPS & SEXUALITY

### Risky Business: Inside America's Adult Film Industry ★★1/2

(2013) 102 min. DVD: \$19.99. *Shorts and Sandals Entertainment.*

Offering neither a historical perspective nor a focus on individual X-rated legends, filmmaker David Mech's *Risky Business* interviews denizens of the porn-film hotspot of Miami, FL. With the exception of a few actresses who enjoy the nonstop intercourse and promiscuous bad-girl mystique, everyone here is in it for the money (especially during the Great Recession; one starlet says she could not meet living expenses at her earlier CPA firm). Nonetheless, talent scouts and directors here say that women in particular are often damaged and abused when they enter the field, embarking on a career that seldom improves their lives (men interviewed say they cope with the baggage). Although STDs are rampant in entry-level amateur productions, professional sex-film studios are said to effectively police themselves against HIV, and some even adopt a condoms-only policy (viewer tastes notwithstanding). Although business insiders warn that government interference will only increase health hazards, they do call for legislation ending job discrimination against former porn players who have left the field. With its personal stories, *Risky Business* doesn't offer much of a sense of the behind-the-scenes production/distribution practices of the \$13 billion smut empire (the low-budget presentation remains Miami-based, with not even a mention of the ballyhooed Adult Video News annual expo in Las Vegas). Bare breasts abound, but the editing avoids any hardcore visuals. Not a thorough everything-you've-wanted-to-know-about-porn-but-were-afraid-the-librarian-would-see-you-Google-it presentation, but one that does answer some questions about porn star issues, this is a strong optional purchase for more liberal-minded collections. Aud: C, P. (C. Cassidy)

### What's the T? ★★★

(2014) 68 min. DVD: \$14.95. *Music Video Distributors (avail. from most distributors).*

An interesting documentary about five transgender women getting on with the business of life, *What's the T?* is a fitfully in-

sightful film that is also too easily diverted by gossip minutiae. At its best, however, Cecilio Asuncion's doc sheds light on its subjects as the latter move through their days—going to work (or seeking it), taking classes, getting together with friends, clubbing, and discussing a life without children or (in several cases) the lack of support and understanding of families. As with any random group of strangers, Asuncion's quintet vary widely in terms of vision, goals, and responsibilities, with some coming across as more committed than others to causes beyond themselves. Despite its limitations, *What's the T?* will help general audiences achieve a better understanding of transgender people, while transgender youth will have an opportunity to witness transgender adults fully integrated into the world. Recommended. Aud: C, P. (T. Keogh)

## FOOD & SPIRITS

### Against the Grain: The Year Mother Nature Struck Back ★★★

(2012) 44 min. DVD: \$19.95 (\$199.99 w/PPR). *Against the Grain Productions (dist. by Dreamscape Media).*

Filmmaker Harold Weitzberg offers a close-up look at the perils of modern American agriculture in this profile centering on farm families in Missouri during the disastrous year of 2011, a time when Mother Nature scourged the Midwest with drought, tornadoes, and flooding. Much acreage in Missouri was flooded when the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers blew up a levee to save the city of Cairo, IL, while landowners elsewhere stood helplessly by as weeks of hot, dry weather reduced acres of corn to shriveled stocks with stunted, unusable cobs. *Against the Grain* focuses primarily on the multigenerational Hughes clan—Lincoln and Trinnade, their three young sons, and Lincoln's parents. Following their day-to-day lives and challenges, the film captures the anxiety and frustration that build up when weather simply will not cooperate, threatening the survival of a multimillion-dollar enterprise—which is, in many cases, what the so-called "family farm" is these days. In the end, one family whose equipment was destroyed by a tornado decides to rebuild, while the Hughes—now mired in debt—agree to soldier on. A sobering look at the new face of farming—changed so much in the last several generations that few would recognize it—this is recommended. Aud: C, P. (F. Gardner)

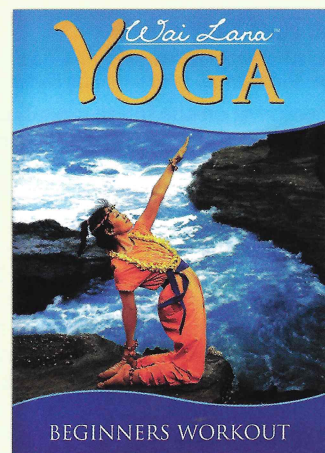
### Planet Food: The Story of Tea ★★★

(2014) 60 min. DVD: \$24.95. *Globe Trekker (avail. from most distributors).* PPR. ISBN: 1-937103-25-5.

*The Story of Tea*, the latest entry in the *Planet Food* series, explores the origins of tea and surrounding customs that have evolved over the centuries. Various youthful hosts

## DVD PICKS

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