

Mia and the Migoo

**France/Italy – US PREMIERE**

Animation, Jacques-Rémy Girerd, 2008, 92 min

French with English subtitles

Recommended ages 7 to adult

DGA – Fri, Feb 27, 6:00pm

**Q&A with director Jacques-Rémy Girerd following the film!**

NYICFF 2009 opens with the US Premiere of the gorgeous second feature from French animator Jacques-Rémy Girard. *Mia and the Migoo* is a work of art, breathtaking to behold. Figures are outlined in pencil and then bathed in rustic watercolors, for a stunning, handcrafted look with backgrounds that burst at the seams with painterly detail, like a Miyazaki film painted by Van Gogh. The story is an eco-adventure that pits a plucky, wild haired young heroine Mia, against profit-hungry capitalists with the future of life on earth in the balance. One night Mia has a premonition. So after saying a few words of parting at her mother's grave, she bids good-bye to her elderly-aunt caretakers and, with lucky trinkets in hand, sets out on a cross-continent journey through cities, mountains and jungles to find her father, a laborer who has been trapped in a landslide at a disaster-plagued construction site on a remote tropical lake. In the middle of the lake stands the ancient, gnarled Tree of Life, watched over by stone-like forest spirits, called Migoo—innocent, almost bumbling creatures who can grow and change shape as they please, morphing from small childlike beings to petulant giants. It is the Migoo who have been sabotaging the construction to protect this sacred site—and now together with Mia, they join in a fight to find Mia's father and save the Tree from destruction.

**OPENING NIGHT GALA!**

**A limited number of tickets are available to the all-ages, post-screening opening night party, with delicious food and drinks for children and adults.**