

Superheroes Premieres on HBO August 8th!

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By Christopher Campbell

Add one more superhero blockbuster to your summer movie schedule.

I had heard a whisper of this a while ago, but now it's confirmed: **HBO Documentary Films** bought the TV rights to [Michael Barnett](#)'s Slamdance hit "**Superheroes**," a doc about those real-life costumed crusaders who are often likened to characters in the films "[Kick-Ass](#)" and "Super." The funny thing is I didn't realize it was official until I saw a magazine ad today for HBO's summer doc series, which features a new premiere every Monday from June 6 through August 15. Other titles include such festival hits as "**Bobby Fischer Against the World**," "**Hot Coffee**," "**Koran by Heart**" and "**A Matter of Taste: Serving Up Paul Liebrandt**" (see the rest of the titles [here](#)). The news about "Superheroes" was also confirmed recently [on the doc's Facebook page](#), where I regrettably missed it earlier.

Of course I'm excited about all 11 films in the series (the only other I've seen so far is "A Matter of Taste"), but I'm especially happy for Barnett's film, because it wasn't seen by enough people in Park City and I know there's a significant audience that will find it intriguing. Here's a snippet of [my review](#):

Often "Superheroes" comes off as also being more about the problems of the world than the costumed crusaders on screen. Through people like "Zetaman," "Life," "Mr. Extreme" and the simply named "Super Hero," we are made to think about the issues of homelessness and violent crime, as well as police corruption and bureaucracy that lead to the necessity for these [[Real-Life Superheroes](#)] to pop up in cities across the nation... "Superheroes" will surely be a big hit with the RLSH crowd, of which there are hundreds more than the selected few in the film, as well as the Comic-Con/fanboy types. Plus it's a well made, albeit fairly standard doc, without many flaws or bumps.

Fortunately, "Superheroes," which is [screening at Seattle's True Independent Film Festival next week](#), is also apparently getting a small theatrical run in October and a DVD release in November.

Check out a trailer for HBO's summer series, including footage of "Superheroes," after the jump.