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At Newark Airport, a 3-D Distraction

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Post-holiday travelers facing delays at Newark Liberty International Airport currently have something other than departure screens to stare at, thanks to a recently added distraction: a free 3-D movie.

“*New Work: Newark in 3-D*,” a six-minute film by Marylou and Jerome Bongiorno originally commissioned by the Newark Museum as part of its 2009 centennial celebration, is currently showing in two locations in Terminal B. It was inspired by Charles Sheeler and Paul Strand’s 1921 avant-garde film “*Manhatta*” (with intertitles from Walt Whitman) and features black-and-white images of Newark shot from unusual vantage points, including the roof of the airport, unfurling against a soundtrack of spoken-word poetry and music by artists based in Newark.

The film, on view through Jan. 15, is the first art film to be shown in the airport, which stocked 30,000 pairs of 3-D glasses before the film’s opening over the busy Thanksgiving weekend.

“Newark Liberty International Airport has been a proud part of the city of Newark for more than eight decades,” Huntley Lawrence, the airport’s general manager, said in a statement. “We are pleased to do our part to help show off the artistic and historic accomplishments of our community and hope airport travelers take a few minutes to enjoy Newark Liberty’s first art film exhibit.”

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