

Rottenberg, J., & Ray, R. D., & Gross, J. J. (2007). Emotion elicitation using films. In J. A. Coan & J. J. B. Allen (Eds.), *The handbook of emotion elicitation and assessment*. London: Oxford University Press.

The following appendix contains information to create twelve of our recommended films. Most of these stimuli were developed from full-length commercial films, all of which are currently available on videotape or DVD format. For these commercial films, we have provided detailed frame editing instructions for creating the same excerpt that was evaluated in our chapter. For those of you who have editing equipment, we have provided precise timing information in terms of hours, minutes, seconds, and frames. If you have a conventional VCR that tracks time in hours, minutes, and seconds, you can use the counter on your VCR to locate the excerpts to the nearest second and, if possible, can use the pause mode and frame advance to locate the exact frame (there are 30 frames per second in VHS (NTSC) format). In recognition that our field is becoming more digital and computer-based, we have also included frame-editing instructions (in parenthesis) for films that are currently available in DVD format. If your equipment does not have this kind of timing capability, you will need to use a stop watch. In any event, we recommend that you follow our editing instructions as closely as possible because relatively small editing variations can produce somewhat different emotional reports.

Some of the film stimuli are derived from non-commercial sources. These are available for download as noted below.

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#### AMUSEMENT FILMS

##### **COSBY**

Film: "Bill Cosby, Himself"  
Target emotion: Amusement  
Clip length: 2'01"

Instructions: (DVD) Begin clip at 1:40:07:05 (hours:minutes:seconds:frames). At this point, the comedian says, "But you see fathers are all together different, I am not saying that they're better, I'm saying they're different." End the clip at 1:42:08:07, right after the comedian says, "You know my father's favorite game? Come here and pull my finger."

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##### **HARRY**

Film: "When Harry Met Sally"  
Target emotion: Amusement  
Clip length: 2'35"

Instructions: Advance to the first frame, in which an elderly couple is visible (the first scene after the opening acknowledgments). Reset the timer to 00:00:00:00 (hours:minutes:seconds:frames). Begin the clip at 00:42:39:29 (00:44:49:17). At this point, a man and woman are sitting in a restaurant. The clip begins 5 frames after the camera angle switches from a view of the man and woman at the table to a view (over the man's shoulder) of the woman fixing the sandwich on her plate and saying "You know, I'm so glad I never got involved with you...." End the clip at 00:45:15:12 (00:47:25:07). At this point, an older woman who is ordering her meal has just said "I'll have what she's having."

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## **ROBIN**

Film: "Robin Williams Live  
Target emotion: Amusement  
Clip length: 7'59"

Instructions: Advance approximately two minutes into the film, to the point at which the comedian first comes onto the stage. When the camera switches from a view of the audience (a woman is descending the stairs to her seat) to the first frame of a close-up of the comedian's torso and head, reset the timer to 00:00:00:00 (hours:minutes:seconds:frames). Begin the clip at 00:03:13:01. At this point, the camera has just moved from a back view of the comedian to a front view of him as he looks down at his cup of water. End the clip at 00:11:11:10. At this point, the comedian has just said, "you're still there!" and the camera has gone to an upper-balcony view of the theater. End the clip 73 frames after the camera has gone to the upper balcony.

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## **ROBIN SHORT** (*Short version of validated film clip*)

Film: "Robin Williams Live"  
Target emotion: Amusement  
Clip length 3'25"

Instructions: Advance approximately two minutes into the film, to the point at which the comedian first comes onto the stage. When the camera switches from a view of the audience (a woman is descending the stairs to her seat) to the first frame of a close-up of the comedian's torso and head, reset the timer to 00:00:00:00 (hours:minutes:seconds:frames). Begin the clip at 00:06:41:01. At this point the comedian is holding a cup of water and stepping off the step

with his right foot, saying "I'm fine now..." Stop recording at 00:08:00:01. At this point, the comedian has just talked about a dog who says, "I've just learned to lick my own genitals, leave me alone! Don't do this to me!" The camera has switched to a far-away shot from the upper balcony. Stop recording at this point, 26 frames into the shot from the upper balcony, just before the comedian says, "And your dog . . ." Begin recording at 00:08:51:12. At this point, the comedian has his mouth open, his head slightly back, and his left hand open. Begin recording 17 frames before the comedian closes his hand, just before he says, "And you're inside stoned going, 'Oh God help me now!'" End the clip at 00:10:56:19. At this point, the comedian has just said, "his face turns into a cheeseburger, you lunge!" and lowered his arms and looked slightly off to his left.

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## ANGER FILMS

### **BODYGUARD**

Film: "My Bodyguard"  
Target emotion: Anger  
Clip length: 4'06"

Instructions: Advance to the first frame in which a growing circular form has the words "Magnetic Video" written under it in full. Reset the timer to 00:00:00:00 (hours:minutes:seconds:frames). Begin the clip at 01:12:23:05 (01:12:15:01). At this point, two men are visible, one wearing a red tank top and the other wearing an army jacket. A fight is about to begin. Several people are in the background, including a blond-haired boy in the lower right hand corner of the screen. Begin the clip at the first frame in which the blond-haired boy's hand covers both his mouth and nose. End the clip at 01:16:29:27 (01:16:20:20). At this point, a man dressed in a gray muscle shirt and black pants is exiting the scene, with trees, a wall, and a fence in the background. This is two frames before a shot of a man with a bloody nose on all fours.

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### **CRY FREEDOM**

Film: "Cry Freedom"  
Target emotion: Anger  
Clip length: 2'36"

Instructions: Advance to the point at which "Cry Freedom" is typed across the screen. At the first frame in which the "m" is visible, reset the timer to 00:00:00:00 (hours:minutes:seconds:frames). Begin the

clip at 2:24:56:11 (02:25:56:07). At this point, there is a shift from a view of protesters in the distance to a close-up of a bald girl with a pink skirt and a boy crossing just in front of her. Begin the clip with the first frame of this close up. Stop recording at 2:25:16:07 (02:26:15:05). At this point, a boy in a dark gray sweater is jumping up and down. Stop recording at the last frame in which he is visible before the camera shifts to the two groups of protesters joining into one group. Begin recording at 2:25:32:06 (02:26:32:06). This is the point at which the camera switches to a view of the three groups of protesters who have just joined into one big group which is advancing straight toward the camera. End the clip at 2:27:49:10 (02:28:49:10). At this point, a man in a car has just shot a boy who was running away. Stop recording after the boy falls, at the first frame in which he is completely still.

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## DISGUST FILMS

### **PINK FLAMINGOS**

Film: "Pink Flamingos"

Target emotion: Disgust

Clip length: 0'30"

Instructions: Advance to the first frame in which the words "Dreamland Studios" are visible with a mobile home behind them. Reset the timer to 00:00:00:00 (hours:minutes:seconds:frames). Begin the clip at 1:31:08:08 (1:31:28:11). At this point, three people have just seen a woman walking her dog. They begin to smile and lick their lips. The dog lowers its head towards the ground slightly. Begin recording 2 seconds and 22 frames (82 frames) after the camera switches from a close-up of the woman to the dog defecating. End the clip at 1:31:38:08 (1:31:58:11). At this point, the woman has her teeth together in a smile after having stuck her tongue out. (This is a little more than a second before "The end" appears.)

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### **AMPUTATION**

Film, "Noncommercial Surgery Film"

Target emotion: Disgust

Clip length: 1'02"

Film available for download at

[http://www.cas.usf.edu/psychology/fac\\_rottenbergJ.htm](http://www.cas.usf.edu/psychology/fac_rottenbergJ.htm)

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## FEAR FILMS

### **SHINING**

Film: "The Shining"  
Target emotion: Fear  
Clip length: 1'22"

Instructions: Advance to the first frame of the film, which shows a body of water surrounded by mountains. Reset the timer to 00:00:00:00 (hours:minutes:seconds:frames). Begin the clip at 00:56:51:15 (00:57:03:08). At this point, a boy's hands are visible (one flat on the floor and the other in a fist). There are toy trucks and cars on a red, brown, and orange carpet. End the clip at 00:58:12:18 (00:58:24:01). At this point, an open door with a key in the lock is visible, and one full second has passed since the boy has said "Mom, are you in there?"

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### **LAMBS**

Film: "Silence of the Lambs"  
Target emotion: Fear  
Clip length: 3'29"

Instructions: Advance to the first frame of the film in which the words "A STRONG HEART DEMME PRODUCTION" appear. Reset the timer to 00:00:00:00 (hours:minutes:seconds:frames). Begin the clip at 01:40:16:29 (01:40:56:01). At this point, a dirt road and trees are in the forefront and a mint green trailer is in the background. Stop recording at 01:43:44:23 (01:44:24:10). At this point, the profile of a dark-haired woman is visible. There is a metal wire hanging from the ceiling that appears to almost (but not quite) touch her nose and chin. Begin recording at 01:46:36:24 (01:47:16:01). At this point, hands holding a gun are moving rapidly into the scene from the right of the screen. In the background, there is dirty yellow wallpaper. End the clip at 01:46:38:19 (01:47:18:01). At this point, the dark-haired woman has her back to the yellow wallpaper, and has pointed her gun between the upper-middle and the upper-right hand portions of the screen. Her right hand obscures most of the left half of her face and we hear her exclaim as the lights go out.

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## NEUTRAL FILMS

### **STICKS**

Film: "Noncommercial Screen Saver"  
Target emotion: Neutral  
Clip Length 3'26"

Instructions: Film available for download at  
[http://www.cas.usf.edu/psychology/fac\\_rottenbergJ.htm](http://www.cas.usf.edu/psychology/fac_rottenbergJ.htm)

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### **DENALI**

Film: "Alaska's Wild Denali"  
Target emotion: Neutral  
Clip Length: 5'02"

Instructions: Reset the timer to 00.00.00:00 when the credits for the Alaskan production company come up. Begin the clip at 00:33:28:00 (00:33:15:00), right after a person plays a guitar, start as the music is still playing and fading, but the visual is a silhouette of a mountain and the midnight sky; the narrator talks about the Alaskan midnight sky. End the clip at 00:38:30:00 (00:38:17:00). At this point, a buck is eating little grasses and there is a shot of a mountain stream.

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### **SADNESS FILMS**

#### **THE CHAMP**

Film: "The Champ"  
Target emotion: Sadness  
Clip length: 2'51"

Instructions: Advance past the title, "Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Presents," to the first frame in which the title is no longer visible. Reset the timer to 00:00:00:00 (hours:minutes:seconds:frames). Begin the clip at 01:50:29:02 (01:54:23:01). At this point, a boxer is lying on a table in a locker room. The boxer says "Where's my boy?" Another man answers, "He's right here". Begin recording as a blond-haired boy walks out of a darkly lit area, just before you hear the boxer ask "Where's my boy?" for the last time. Stop recording at 01:50:52:05 (01:54:45:20). At this point, the boxer says "TJ," and then says "Annie was here tonight, TJ." Stop recording after he says "TJ" and before he says "Annie was here tonight, TJ." Begin recording at 01:51:56:14 (01:55:54:01). Begin recording immediately before the child says "Yeah... The champ always comes through...". Stop recording at 01:52:26:04 (01:56:18:20). At this point, the boxer has just closed his eyes and died. Begin recording at 01:53:15:21 (01:57:13:15). At this point, we see a side

view of the dead boxer lying on the table. The camera then goes to the boy who is standing in front of a tall man. Only the man's torso is visible. He is wearing a towel around his neck and is holding the boy's shoulders. The boy is crying and saying, "Champ". End the clip at 01:55:11:03 (01:59:08:20). At this point, the boy is crying, saying "I want Champ." The man replies, "Please TJ, listen to me. He's gone. He's gone, son. He's gone." The child, still crying, replies, "No. No. He's not gone, he's not, he's not." Stop recording at the frame in which the boy backs away from the man.

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### **LION KING**

Film: "The Lion King"  
Target emotion: Sadness  
Clip length: 2'11"

Instructions: (DVD) Begin clip at (0:36:09:08) (hours:minutes:seconds:frames), right after one lion throws another lion off of a cliff. At this point, the lion is falling off of a cliff backwards into the stampede. End the clip at (0:38:20:11). At this point, the lion's son has just crawled under his paw and lies down by his father.

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### **RETURN TO ME**

Film: "Return to Me"  
Target emotion: Sadness  
Clip length: 3'36"

Instructions: (DVD) Begin clip at (0:13:11:10) (hours:minutes:seconds:frames), right before the couple begins to dance, and then the man says, "Stand on my feet." Stop recording at (0:14:33:07). At this point, a nurse has just said, "Sorry you are going to have to wait here, we're going to try to help." Start recording again at (0:18:03:16), a door opens, two men walk in and one says, "I've gotta walk Mel." End the clip at 0:20:17:19, the man is sitting on the floor with his dog crying.

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## **SURPRISE FILMS**

### **CAPRICORN**

Film: "Capricorn One"  
Target emotion: Surprise  
Clip length: 0'49"

Instructions: Advance to the first frame in which the words "Sir Lew Grade Presents" are visible. Reset the timer to 00:00:00:00 (hours:minutes:seconds:frames). Begin the clip at 01:32:58:18 (01:33:07:06). At this point, a man is sitting on a bed in an apartment. Begin recording at the first frame after the camera switches from a close-up of the man's face to a shot from down the hall. End the clip at 01:33:47:27 (01:33:56:17). At this point, men have just burst through the door. Stop recording at the frame after the third agent has left the screen (from left to right) and the man can be seen on the bed.

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### **SEA OF LOVE**

Film: "Sea of Love"

Target emotion: Surprise

Clip length: 0'9"

Instructions: Advance to the first frame in which the words "A Martin Bregman Production" are visible. Reset the timer to 00:00:00:00 (hours:minutes:seconds:frames). Begin the clip at 01:19:05:15 (1:19:26:01). At this point, a man has gotten out of an elevator and begun walking down the hall toward an exit door. Begin recording as he turns the corner, at the frame in which he first turns his back completely to the wall and is looking toward the left. End the clip at 01:19:16:00 (1:19:35:03). At this point, the last bird has just flown out of view.

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