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**14<sup>th</sup> PALM BEACH INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL**  
**UNVEILS 2009 LINE-UP**

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**FEST OPENS WITH CHARLES MARTIN SMITH'S "STONE OF DESTINY," AND**  
**CLOSES WITH "500 DAYS OF SUMMER"**

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**JAMES CROMWELL, JOEL ZWICK FIRST HONOREES TO BE ANNOUNCED**

BOCA RATON, FL – The Palm Beach International Film Festival (PBIFF) announced its highly anticipated film line-up for the 14<sup>th</sup> edition, April 23-27, 2009. Executive Director Randi Emerman announced that more than 110 films will screen at this year's event, which now spans five days. "We're a little shorter this year, yet we have added more venues, as well as a second weekend featuring the 'Best of the Fest,'" said Emerman. "The festival takes pride in our determination to bring Palm Beach County only the highest of quality in today's independent film world!"

The 2009 Festival will present features, documentaries, shorts and student shorts from the U.S. and around the world, including Canada, Italy, England, Germany, Israel, Australia, South Africa, Sri Lanka and India, and will play host to filmmakers, producers, and actors to represent and discuss their films. The festival also features a special Italian Cinema sidebar, curated by **Veronica De Laurentiis**.

Opening night kicks off with the charming comedy adventure "**Stone of Destiny**." **Charles Martin Smith** (*American Graffiti*, *The Untouchables*) brings a fine wit and charm to this tale. The film stars **Charlie Cox**, **Kate Mara**, **Robert Carlyle** (*Full Monty*), **Billy Boyd** (*Lord of the Rings*) and **Ciaron Kelly** and retells the true story of four young Glaswegian students who, in 1951, outwitted the British authorities in their successful attempt to take back the Coronation Stone -Stone of Scone, a beloved symbol of Scottish

pride – from Westminster Abbey back to its country of origin. *Writer/Director Charles Martin Smith will be in attendance.*

Closing Night will feature the romantic comedy “**500 Days of Summer.**” Directed by **Marc Webb** and starring **Zoey Deschanel** and **Joseph Gordon-Levitt**, this is a story of boy meets girl, and a true-to-life and unique dissection of the unruly and unpredictable year-and-a-half of one young man’s no-holds-barred love affair.

This year PBIFF is proud to honor some of the great talents in the industry. The first honorees to be recognized for their excellence in film are Academy Award-nominated actor **James Cromwell**, *who* will receive the **Career Achievement Award**. Cromwell’s expansive career includes such memorable films as *Babe*, *The Green Mile*, *The Longest Yard*, *The Queen* and most recently portrayed George H. W. Bush in Oliver Stone’s *W*. Director **Joel Zwick** will receive the **Visionary Award**. Zwick directed *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, the highest-grossing romantic comedy of all time – which also had an early debut at PBIFF! Zwick has success in every genre, from film to theater to television, having the direction of well over 500 episodes to his credit.

Additional honorees will soon be announced. The annual PBIFF black-tie Awards Gala celebration takes place on Friday, April 24 at the Boca Raton Resort & Club and will once again be hosted by the ever-popular and charming **Tristan Rogers**.

Other special events and features include:

- Enjoy a **Conversation with Director Joel Zwick** on Saturday, April 25, at 10 am at the Seagate Beach Club, Delray Beach. Meet the legendary director and enjoy a continental breakfast overlooking the sparkling Atlantic Ocean while partaking in an informal Q&A. The director will discuss how he launched his career in both television and film and offer insight into the industry. Joel Zwick directed *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, the highest-grossing romantic comedy of all time, produced by Tom Hanks, Rita Wilson and Gary Goetzman. Mr. Zwick is recognized as Hollywood’s most prolific director of episodic television, having the direction of five hundred and twenty-five episodes to his credit

- With continuous diligent support to the future of film, the PBIFF will be holding seminars throughout the festival. They will touch on topics such as **Finding an Agent**, and the 2nd Annual production finance conference, **The Business of Film: From Idea to Audience**, sponsored by the Governor’s Office of Film and Entertainment.

- PBIFF will present the **Student Showcase of Films Screenings** on Sunday, April 25, at Cobb Theatres Downtown at the Gardens honoring the student filmmakers and celebrating the artistic successes they have achieved in this field. The PBIFF is pleased to

spotlight the talent of our youth and considers this investment in future filmmakers to be one of the most important features of the PBIFF.

- PBIFF presents a special **“Sing-a-Long Screening Under the Stars”** on Sunday, April 26 at 8pm. Gather your friends, bring a blanket, a nice bottle(s) of wine, and an evening picnic and enjoy a sing-a-long version of *“Mamma Mia”* under the stars along the Intracoastal Waterway in Boynton Beach.

- Following the screening of *Roots Of Reggae – The Ernest Ranglin Story* on Sunday night, April 26, 10 pm, continue jamming into the night with filmmaker and well-known Los Angeles DJ **Native Wayne Jobson**. This will be an opportunity to spend a music- and dance-filled evening with a reggae star and independent filmmaker at Delray’s hottest nightclub Delux.

- PBIFF presents the **World Showcase of Italian Cinema** curated by guest programmer **Veronica De Laurentiis**, best-selling author and actor, and the daughter of famed film star Silvana Mangano and legendary film producer Dino De Laurentiis. Sunday, April 26 at the Sunrise Cinemas Mizner.

- On Monday, April 27 PBIFF will present a Special Screening of *Shout It Out* at Boca Raton High School at 1pm. Directed by Bess O’Brien, *Shout it Out* tells the story of a group of teenagers making their way through high school. The film follows them through some of the more tumultuous moments of teenage hood. *Shout it Out* is based on eight months of research with Vermont teens, all songs written by VT teens and acted by local teens.

- And, of course, the ever-popular Weekend of Shorts and the Voices of Local Films.

- PBIFF presents the **“Best of the Fest Weekend,”** with encore screenings of the most popular films of the festival on Saturday, May 2 and Sunday, May 3 at the Cobb Theaters in Jupiter.

Screenings of this year’s films will be centered primarily at **Sunrise Cinemas, Mizner Park** in Boca Raton, with special presentations throughout the county, including **Movies of Delray, Lake Worth Playhouse, FAU and Cobb Theaters Jupiter and Downtown at the Gardens**.

Tickets and passes are on sale now! Platinum passes are available for \$1,000, which includes unlimited admission to all films, parties and the Black tie Awards Gala; Premiere passes are available for \$500, which provides admission to all films and select parties; Gold passes are available for \$150, which includes unlimited admission to all films with the exception of opening and closing nights, and seminars; and a student pass is \$25 with valid student ID, which allows students to see all films and seminars on a

space-available basis. Tickets for all movies are regular theatre admission (may differ by theatre) and can be purchased at each theater's box office, or in advance at [www.pbifilmfest.org](http://www.pbifilmfest.org) or [www.brownpaperticket.com](http://www.brownpaperticket.com).

The Palm Beach International Film Festival is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization supporting film programs in local schools and dedicated to making a difference in the lives of future filmmakers by helping them fulfill their dreams to one-day work in the world of film. For more information, please call (561) 362-0003 or visit the festival web site at [www.pbifilmfest.org](http://www.pbifilmfest.org).

**14<sup>TH</sup> PALM BEACH INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL**  
**FILM LINE-UP**

**FEATURES**

***Adam*, USA – FLORIDA PREMIERE**

Director: Max Mayer

Cast: Hugh Dancy, Rose Byrne, Peter Gallagher, Amy Irving

Romance can be risky, perplexing and filled with the perils of miscommunication - and that's if you *aren't* ADAM, for whom life itself is this way. In this offbeat, decidedly unfamiliar romantic comedy, Hugh Dancy (*The Jane Austen Book Club*, *Confessions of a Shopaholic*) stars as Adam, a handsome but intriguingly odd young man who has all his life led a sheltered existence - until he meets his new neighbor, Beth (Rose Byrne, *Damages*, *28 Weeks Later*, and the new box office hit *Knowing*), a beautiful, cosmopolitan young woman who thrusts him into the outside world, with funny, touching and entirely unexpected results. Their implausible and enigmatic relationship reveals just how far two people from different realities can stretch in search of an extraordinary connection.

***American Violet*, USA**

Director: Tim Disney

Cast: Nicole Beharie, Tim Blake Nelson, Will Patton, Michael O'Keefe, XZIBIT, Charles Dutton, Alfre Woodard, Tim Ware

Based on true events, "American Violet" tells the story of Dee Roberts, a 24 year old African-American single mother of 4 living in a small Texas town, barely making ends meet. Based on the uncorroborated word of a single dubious police informant, Dee soon is charged as a drug dealer, in a sweeping drug bust in her housing project. Dee is offered a hellish choice: plead guilty and go home as a convicted felon or remain in prison and fight the charges. Joined in an unlikely alliance with an ACLU attorney and former narcotics officer, Dee risks everything in a battle that forever changes her life and the Texas justice system. *Tim Ware, a So. Florida native, will attend.*

***And The Winner Is...*, USA - WORLD PREMIERE**

Director: Christina Grozik

Cast: Christina Grozik, Michael McClatchy, Jerry Springer, Mary Faktor

An American town elects its Mayor through a Beauty Pageant style event. *Filmmaker attending.*

***Baby On Board*, USA**

Directors: Brian Herzlinger, Emilio Ferrari

Cast: John Corbett, Heather Graham, Lara Flynn Boyle, Jerry O'Connell

In the tradition of "Knocked Up" and "40 Year Old Virgin" comes a hilarious comedy "Baby on Board" about Angela an ambitious, beautiful, career-oriented woman, and her husband Curtis, and their unexpected pregnancy during the peak of Angela's professional path and her over-demanding boss. From the hormonal and emotional mood swings to the comical physical changes taking over her once perfect body, this film chronicles the hilarious cause and effects of pregnancy on modern-day businesswoman. *Filmmaker attending.*

***Baggage, USA***

Director: Stephen Polk

Cast: Barry Bostwick, Cheryl Ladd

Baggage has the unique distinction of exploring the boundaries of intimacy and redemption alongside the oftentimes humorous journeys of parenthood, marriage and divorce within the context of a true American family. The story takes you by the hand and reveals each character's layers and relationships via riveting performances by a stellar ensemble cast led by stars Barry Bostwick and Cheryl Ladd. The Murphy's journey between Thanksgiving and Christmas leaves audiences with a sense of hope and reconciliation for their own families. Welcome sentiments for our tumultuous times. *Filmmaker attending.*

***Dim Sum Funeral, Canada - EAST COAST PREMIERE***

Director: Anna Chi

Cast: Bai Ling, Russell Wong, Kelly Hu, Talia Shire, Julia Nickson

Upon her death, a wealthy, "dragon lady" Chinese matriarch's final wish is for her grown Americanized children, estranged from herself as well as from each other, to give her the seven-day traditional Chinese funeral with the underlying intention of bringing them together as a real family. The matriarch's plan works, and the week ends with a shocking surprise. A funny and touching American comedy, "Dim Sum Funeral" is a contemporary multi-generational ethnic look into the cultural diversity of America that will "touch the heart," which is the direct English translation of the Chinese words "dim sum."

***Dubble (Doppio), Italy - FLORIDA PREMIERE***

Director: Eric Alexander

Cast: Alessandro Sampaoli, Eric Alexander, Silvia Baldo, Camila Raznovich

Luca, a writer, dreams of making an independent film. In his struggle to live and pay the rent on his one room flat, which he shares with his brother Mickey, he is obliged to work as a script adaptor for the dubbing of soap operas. Mickey, an aspiring theatre actor, is persuaded by his brother to have a try at film dubbing, an activity which he does not enjoy but which, through a series of events, will change his life. Spite, malice, love affairs, revenge, dreams and delusions all take place in the space of three days within the dubbing complex.

***For My Father, Germany/Israel - USA PREMIERE***

Director: Dro (Dudu) Zahavi

Cast: Hili Yalon, Shredi Jabarin

A young man caught between his love and the bomb he carries.

*Audience Award Moscow International Film Festival*

*Nominated 7 times by the Israeli Film Academy*

***How I Got Lost, USA - WORLD PREMIERE***

Director: Joe Leonard

Cast: Aaron Stanford, Jacob Fishel, Rosemarie DeWitt, Nicole Vicius, Jill Flint

A reckless banker convinces his broken-hearted best friend to leave New York with him after 9/11 to look for the things they've lost. But when their car breaks down in the middle of nowhere, the truth comes out about the real motivation for the trip. On the road and in small town Ohio, the friends discover that sometimes you have to get lost to figure out where you're going. *Filmmaker attending.*

***In My Pocket*, USA**

Director: David Lisle Johnson

Cast: Brendan Sexton III, Daphne Ramnath-Verdejo, Gregory Smith, Jamie McShane, Kaylee DeFer

Stephen Jameson has had his life planned out for him for quite some time. Problem is, he's gone down the wrong path. Drugs have steadily taken over his life, he can't stay sober and is now faced with telling his parents he's about to fail out of school. Rob Vills is a true 'Rock Star'. The decisions they both make over the course of one night land them both in Second Chances Rehabilitation Center. A journey into the lives of two fundamentally different people whom they share a very crucially commonality -- addiction.

***In Northwood*, USA**

Director: D.W. Brown

Cast: Dash Mihok, Nick Stahl, Olivia Wilde, Pruitt Taylor Vince, Shohreh Aghdashloo

"In Northwood" is about trying to be sane in an insane world-- trying to connect with people who don't want to be connected with --trying to do the right thing when the wrong thing feels so much better. It is a chilling, tour-de-force actor's piece. The material is dark and compelling, but surprisingly humorous at times with a powerful message. *Filmmaker attending*

***Lightbulb*, USA**

Director: Jeffery Balsmeyer

Cast: Ayelet Zurer, Dallas Roberts, Jeremy Renner

A true and timely rags-to-riches story of two friends - a small-time inventor and a sharky salesman - who hit rock bottom before coming up with a gizmo that becomes a worldwide phenomenon. It only takes one idea...

***Long Weekend*, Australia **FLORIDA PREMIERE****

Director: Jamie Blanks

Cast: Jim Caviezel, Claudia Karvan

Based on the 1978 Australian thriller of the same name, "Long Weekend" recounts the story of a vacationing couple that disregards their natural environment, until the wilderness starts to strike back out at them.

***Machan*, Italy, Germany, Sri Lanka**

Director: Uberto Pasolini

Cast: Dharmapriya Dias, Gihan De Chickera, Namal Jayasinghe, Dharshan Dharmaraj, Mahendra Perera

Living on the margins of society, under impossible pressures, a group of desperate slum dwellers find an invitation to a handball tournament in Bavaria. The one-way ticket to the West could be the answer to their prayers and a solution to all their problems.

*Jury Award for Best Film Venice International Film Festival*

*Audience Award Kerala International Film Festival*

*Nominated for International Jury Award São Paulo International Film Festival*

***The Merry Gentleman*, USA**

Director: Michael Keaton

Cast: Michael Keaton, Kelly Macdonald

Running away from a troubled marriage, Kate Frazier hopes to find anonymity with a new home and a new job in Chicago. Despite friendly flirtation from co-workers and others, the shy and reserved Kate keeps her distance, avoiding questions about her sudden arrival and her recent past. When Kate meets Frank Logan, the two discover unexpected satisfaction in their mutual, shared silence. Haunted by the troubling choices he has made, Frank finds a kindred spirit in the younger Kate, and for a moment the two seem destined to redeem and remake each other.

*Filmmaker attending.*

***Narciso, dietro i cannoni, davanti ai muli*, Italy - USA PREMIERE**

Director: Marcello Baldi, Dario Baldi

Cast: Roberto Herlitzka, Amina Syed, Alessandro Di Natale, Ayaz Mansha

Narciso is an ancient mountain worker since his birth, after twenty years his son is back in his strictly Catholic village, with a Muslim wife, and a Muslim son...and they'll live together with several surprises and issues.

***Poundcake*, USA**

Director: Rafael Monserrate

Cast: Deshja Driggs-Hall, Jay O. Sanders, Kathleen Quinlan, Kevin Logie, Troy Hall, Marisa Coughlan & Rob Bogue

Thanksgiving 1987. Buffalo, NY. Cliff and Carol Morgan take their three grown children to The Golden Buddha Chinese Restaurant for an announcement. After thirty years of marriage, they are getting a divorce. Now they must spend what may be their last Thanksgiving together as a family, in as civilized a manner as possible. *Filmmaker attending.*

***Red Baron*, Germany FLORIDA PREMIERE**

Director: Nikolai Mullerschoen

Cast: Til Schweiger, Lena Headey, Joseph Fiennes, Matthias Schweighofer

Red Baron recounts the story of celebrated German Air Force Pilot, Baron Manfred von Richthofen. He struggles to deal with conflicting feelings of disgust for the war, responsibility to his peers, and love for a woman.

***Shannon's Rainbow*, USA - WORLD PREMIERE**

Director: Frank E. Johnson

Cast: Julianne Michelle, Carson Brown, Charles Durning, Claire Forlani, Daryl Hannah, Eric Roberts, George Lopez

A 17-year old girl faces and overcomes personal hardship and tragedy with the love of a horse and the mother she never knew she had.

***Shout It Out*, USA - FLORIDA PREMIERE**

Director: Bess O'Brien

Cast: Andrew McDuff, Annalise Shelmandine, Caroline Bright, Jaci Laroque, Jonathan Reid

*Shout it Out* tells the story of a group of teenagers making their way through high school. The film follows them through some of the more tumultuous moments of teenage hood: academic pressure; friction with peers, teachers, teen pregnancy, sexuality, cutting, class issues, body issues, relationships with parents; trying to fit in, trying to find one's self, fear of the future; nostalgia for the past; friendship; and first love. *Shout it Out* is based on eight months of research with Vermont teens, all songs written by VT teens and acted by local teens. *Filmmaker attending.*

***Skin*, United Kingdom/South Africa - FLORIDA PREMIERE**

Director: Anthony Fabian

Cast: Sophie Okonedo, Alice Krige, Sam Neill

Spanning the last 30 years of South Africa's apartheid system, SKIN is based on the extraordinary true story of Sandra Laing (Sophie Okenodo), who was born black to two white Afrikaner parents, unaware of their black ancestry. She grows up in a sheltered environment on a rural farm, loved and nurtured by her father (Sam Neill) and mother (Alice Krige). Reality sets in when she is thrown out of the all-white boarding school her brother also attends, and is reclassified by the state as 'coloured': Sandra will not have the same opportunities as everyone else in her family. Her parents immediately seek to have her legally classified "white" again, setting in motion a battle that ultimately gives Sandra the strength and self-awareness to embrace her identity and cultural legacy as an African woman.

*Santa Barbara International Film Festival Audience Award*

*Los Angeles Pan African Film Festival Audience Award & Jury Award*

***Stone Of Destiny*, Canada/UK FLORIDA PREMIERE**

Director: Charles Martin Smith

Cast: Charlie Cox, Kate Mara, Robert Carlyle, Billy Boyd, Ciaron Kelly

Stone of Destiny retells the story of the quest of four students to return the Stone of Scone back to Scotland, its country of origin. *Writer/Director Charles Martin Smith attending*

*Audience Favorite, Victoria Independent Film and Video Festival*

*Nominated Best Feature Film, BAFTA Awards, Scotland*

***Tripping Forward*, USA**

Director: Marcus Nash

Cast: Chris Fogelman, William Gregory Lee, Amber Benson

Tripping Forward is an off-beat comedy about two partying roommates in Hollywood that make the unfortunate mistake of selling drugs to supermodels to make ends meet. While Ford struggles with the fact that his only success is in commercials and desperately tries to advance his career as a film actor, Tripp has given up on music in order to concentrate on drugs and sponging off of Ford. After a drug deal goes bad, Ford finds himself caught between his drugged-up idiot roommate and a mafia boss hell-bent on castrating him.

**DOCUMENTARIES*****12 Stones*, Nepal/USA**

Director: Sandy Smolan

A beautiful and evocative film about the remarkable transformation of a group of illiterate women in southern Nepal.

***Atomic! A Train Of Mad Italians In China*, Italy**

Director: Giovanni Piperno

Featuring: Olga Beccaluva, Andrea Carlo Buzzi, Jacopo Guerrini, Vincenzo Pellicchia, Natasha Vispi

A mad journey: 77 mental patients along with 130 health care workers, psychiatrists, relatives and volunteers, take a train from Venice to Beijing, passing through Hungary, the Ukraine, Russia and Mongolia. Among these 200 passionate, pill-popping travelers, we meet a group of eight invincible – of different ages, roles, diagnoses – who are on a mission: they have to come up with a creative event that will involve the whole train and, once in Beijing, convey to the world the sense of this surreal but at the same time very concrete journey. Among them, we meet the protagonists of this story who talk about themselves, swap stories, fall asleep unexpectedly, fall in love, get lost, fall out of love and find themselves again; all of which merges to show in an entirely non-linear way, that, together, change is possible.

***Autistic-Like: Graham's Story*, USA**

Director: Erik Linthorst

Featuring: Erik Linthorst

AUTISTIC-LIKE: GRAHAM'S STORY is an intimate family portrait showing one dad's determined quest to find the right therapies, the right doctors, and even the right words to describe his son. This short subject documentary is a startling report from the edge of the autism epidemic, and illuminates the medical, social and public health issues faced by families whose autistic-like children have no clear diagnosis, and are offered no specific treatment. The CDC says that one in every 150 children born has autism. Maybe not.

***Classmates Of Anne Frank*, Israel – US PREMIERE**

Director: Eyal Boyers

Featuring: Nannete Konig-Blitz, Theo Coster

A game inventor from Israel returns to his childhood neighborhood in Holland to reunite with five of his and Anne Frank's former classmates, only to discover a surprising truth about the village where he was hiding during World War II.

***Connected C: The Spirit Is Listening*, USA - WORLD PREMIERE**

Director: Wade Glenn Whitworth, Anne V. Louise-Turgeon

A collaborative look at the impact of arts on society.

***Courting Condi*, USA**

Director: Sebastian Doggart

Featuring: Devin Ratray, Adrian Grenier, Carol Connors, Condoleezza Rice, Jim Norton

"Courting Condi" follows a love-struck soul's hilarious, emotionally engaging quest to woo Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. A spin on the Rapunzel-style fairy-tale, this unique romantic/political/biographic feature follows musician Devin Ratray as he travels across America to win her heart. On Devin's journey to meet and court her, he discovers stories that he, and most viewers, never knew about Condi -- including some shockingly dark revelations about how she has changed our lives. Throughout his odyssey, the biggest question remains: Can one man with a dream win the heart of the world's most powerful woman? *Filmmaker attending*

***Dreamriders*, USA - FLORIDA PREMIERE**

Director: William S. Roulston

Featuring: Nico Roulston, William S. Roulston

Father and son try to rebuild their divorce-wracked relationship by trying something outlandish: a summer-long quest for adventure across America. 4,000 miles. On bicycles. With no previous experience.

***Gimme A Hug*, The Netherlands - FLORIDA PREMIERE**

Director: Geert Droppers

Featuring: Cristina Zenato

The amazing behavior of a top-predator.

***Gotta Dance*, USA**

Director: Dori Berinstein

Featuring: Fanny, Marge, Deanna, Betty/Betsy and Joe B

"Gotta Dance" is "Bad News Bears" swirled into the flip side of "Mad Hot Ballroom." The film chronicles the debut of the New Jersey Nets first-ever, senior citizen hip-hop dance team - 12 women and 1 man - all dance team newbies, from auditions and rehearsal through center court stardom. *The New Jersey Nets Senior Citizen Hip Hop Dance Team will attend, along with director Dori Berinstein*

***Lady Kul El Arab*, Israel - FLORIDA PREMIERE**

Director: Ibtisam Mara'ana

"Lady Kul el-Arab" sets out as a glamorous film about a beauty pageant, and turns into a moving story of a family caught between cultures. In her fifth film, director Ibtisam Mara'ana succeeds in delicately drawing the dramatic and touching portrait of a young woman who finds herself at the heart of a struggle which fascinates the whole country.

*Best Directing Award– New Delhi International Women Film Festival*

*Special Jury Award – IDFA Silver Wolf Competition*

***Million Calorie March*, USA**

Director: Gary Marino

America. Land of opportunity - and calories. 397-pound food addict Gary Michael Marino has had enough and is about to attempt the comeback of a lifetime: losing over 150 pounds by walking 1200 miles from Florida to Boston to champion obesity awareness. This humorous and inspirational documentary will make you laugh, make you cry, and make you think about why so many kids and adults are struggling with obesity and empower you to find ways to help them with the fight. *Filmmaker attending.*

***My Name Is Orphan*, India/USA**

Directors: Gene Rumley, Trevor Brown

Featuring: Gene Rumley

My Name is Orphan shows the plight of street kids and orphans in Mumbai, India and how Mission for Orphans joins the efforts of Vision Rescue to make a difference in the lives of these abandoned children.

***Our Disappeared*, USA**

Director: Juan Mandelbaum

After learning that Patricia, a long lost girlfriend from Argentina, is among the thousands who "disappeared" during the 1976-1983 dictatorship, director Juan Mandelbaum embarks on a journey to find out what happened to her and others he knew who were kidnapped and never seen again.

***Prom Night Mississippi***, Canada/USA

Director: Paul Saltzman

Featuring: Morgan Freeman, Chasidy Buckley, Jessica Shivers, 'Billy Joe', Bucky Smith

On April 19, 2008, Charleston High School in Charleston, Mississippi, held its historic, first-ever integrated Senior Prom, ending a long tradition of segregated parent-organized White Proms and Black proms. Academy Award®-winning actor, Morgan Freeman, who lives in the community, stimulated this change by paying for the Prom. Some white parents still maintained their White Prom. *Filmmaker attending.*

*Nominated for a Grand Jury Prize, Sundance Film Festival****Roots Of Reggae – The Ernest Ranglin Story***, USA/Jamaica

Director: Christoffer Salzgeber

Featuring: Jimmy Cliff, Chris Blackwell, Wayne Jobson, Damian Marley, Ernest Ranglin

Telling the story of one of our most important musicians, "Roots of Reggae" parallels Ernest Ranglin's career with the growth of Ska and Reggae music around the world. A unique piece of documentary filmmaking, it captures the humor, charm and virtuosity of a living legend. *Wayne Jobson and Ernest Ranglin attending.*

***Salt***, Australia

Director: Michael Angus, Murray Fredericks

Featuring: Murray Fredericks

Salt is a 30 minute documentary on photo-artist Murray Frederick's extreme journeys to capture the heart of the world's most featureless landscape on Lake Eyre, South Australia. Totally isolated, he must contend with equipment failure and the environmental elements of rain, mud plains, lightning, and the ever intrusive salt. His only reference point is the horizon and his only companion, his thoughts. The resulting photographs are not just sublime pictures of a remote and surreal location - they are still points that punctuate a journey of the mind and spirit.

***The Beetle***, Israel

Director: Yishai Orian

Yishai Orian, the owner of an old Volkswagen Beetle, is about to become a father. His mechanic says that the car will not last long, while his wife complains that the car is unsuitable for a baby. Attempting to keep his beloved car, Yishai goes on a journey that begins with the previous owners of the Beetle, and ends with the birth of his first child. The exciting, funny, sad, and intimate memories of the Beetle's previous owners blend with the director's personal story.

*Audience Top Ten Laurel choice, HotDocs International Film Festival**Nominated for the Israeli Oscar Awards for Best Documentary****The Boot Cake***, Australia - **FLORIDA PREMIERE**

Director: Kathryn Millard

It's Charlie Chaplin's birthday party and a desert town in India - home to the world's largest population of Tramp impersonators - is throwing a party. A wonderful, mad, poignant story of resilience and hope.

*Nominated for Best Documentary, Australian Writers' Guild Awards****The Case For Israel: Democracy's Outpost***, USA - **FLORIDA PREMIERE**

Director: Michael Yohay

Featuring: Alan Durshowitz

Presenting a vigorous case for Israel - for its basic right to exist, to protect its citizens from terrorism, and to defend its borders from hostile enemies. Alan Dershowitz engages leaders from Israel and North America in discourse on critical challenges facing Israel and the West. *Filmmaker attending.*

***The Day After Peace*, United Kingdom – FLORIDA PREMIERE**

Director: Jeremy Gilley

Featuring: Angelina Jolie, Annie Lennox, Johnny Lee Miller, Jude Law, The Dalai Lama, Kofi Annan

“The Day After Peace” charts the remarkable 10-year journey of filmmaker Jeremy Gilley to establish a day of Peace on September 21st. During the course of his mission the camera follows Gilley as he galvanizes the countries of the world to recognize this as an official day of cease-fire and non-violence. *Filmmaker attending.*

***The Invocation*, USA**

Director: Emmanuel Itier

Featuring: Desmond Tutu, The Dalai Lama, Deepak Chopra, Oliver Stone

An exploration of the notion of God and World Peace around the world and through major leaders in Religion, Spirituality, History, Sciences, Politics and Arts. *Film is a work-in-progress. Filmmaker attending.*

***The Legacy*, USA - WORLD PREMIERE**

Director: Andrés Faucher

Featuring: David Arben, Jennifer Colombani, Ludwig Colombani, Emilio Vicente Argento, Paule Marjolaine Bodson-Clermont, Gustavo Dudamel, Marcial Flores, Yaitza Lopez Valle, Maestro Eckerht Lucena, Mateus de Castro Machado Freire, Guillermo Alberto Marin, Jonathan Maxfield McCormick, Carlos Prieto, Jhoanna Sierralta, Francisco Velazquez Salinas, and The Youth Orchestra of the Americas.

Through the eyes of nine members of the Youth Orchestra of the Americas, an impoverished nine year-old from Margarita Island, and the survivor of seven concentration camps who went on to become the Associate Concert Master of the Philadelphia Orchestra, THE LEGACY explores the hope, dignity and joy that the pursuit of excellence engenders in a human being.

***Viva Mandiba: A Hero For All Seasons*, South Africa - WORLD PREMIERE**

Director: Catherine Meyburgh

Viva Mandiba: A Hero For All Seasons is a celebration of an icon, a titan of our times and a giant among men. In the year of his 90th birthday, Nelson Mandela remains a man at the centre of attention, not only in South Africa, but around the world as well. Behind the headlines and away from the public eye, he is a loyal friend, a dependable comrade, a trusted confidante and a respected mentor, and a man who touched and transformed countless lives. For the first time this story is being told, as a life of struggle, destiny and greatness is recalled and celebrated by those who knew him best and who worked with him in the quest to break the chains of oppression, taking us beyond the political and into the personal.

***Waiting For My Real Life*, Canada**

Director: Geoff Bowie

Featuring: Jeremy Norman, Michael Harrison

“Waiting for My Real Life” is an American story about a young man’s courageous battle against

incredible odds. Jeremy Norman is 23 years old. Bedridden for three years, Jeremy is trapped in the basement of his parents' house. Three years ago, Jeremy went through gastric bypass surgery in an attempt to save his life. Unable to walk due to scar tissue and complications from his operation, Jeremy's only hope is another surgery. If successful, he will be able to live a normal life. We journey through Jeremy's life from childhood to today as he continues his fight and waits for his real life to begin.

***Whiz Kids*, USA**

Directors: Tom Shepard

Featuring: Ana Cisneros, Hermain Khan, Kelydra Welcker

At a time when U.S. teens lag dangerously behind other countries in math and science, WHIZ KIDS is a coming-of-age documentary that tells the story of three remarkably different yet equally passionate 17 year-old scientists who compete in the nation's oldest, most prestigious science competition. Whether they win or lose, they raise questions about class, courage, personal sacrifice, success and failure, and in the process, learn as much about themselves as they do about science.

***Why Be Good? Sexuality And Censorship In Early Cinema*, USA - EAST COAST PREMIERE**

Director: Elaina Archer

Featuring: Diane Lane

"Why Be Good: Sexuality and Censorship in Early Cinema" is a documentary film that focuses on the tug-of-war between the artist/filmmaker and the censors during the years 1900-1935. Hugh Hefner produced. *Filmmaker attending.*

**SHORT FILMS**

***8 Easy Steps*, USA - WORLD PREMIERE**

Director: Alain Hain

Cast: Jennifer Kim, Alyse Zwick, Anna Camp, Ben Mapp, Gabriel Chytry

A young woman struggles to follow the romantic advice of a popular talk-show therapist, who promises that true love can be found in eight easy steps.

***A Bit Of Counseling*, USA**

Directors: Deb Hiatt, Richard Kuhlman

Cast: Deb Hiatt, Richard Kuhlman

A British couple seeks therapy for an unusual problem, and finds an unusual solution.

***Alba*, Italy**

Director: Giorgia Farina

Cast: Sara D'amario, Tommaso Facchi, Vincenzo Bocciarelli

Alba is a beautiful 'real' fairytale.

***Acting For The Camera*, USA - EAST COAST PREMIERE**

Director: Justin Nowell

Cast: Joe Urla, Mallory June, Eugene Barnes

An acting class. First up: the orgasm scene from "When Harry Met Sally."

***Against The Wind*, USA**

Director: Dan Masucci

In the twilight of his life, Ned reflects on his past, his remaining years, and discovers how his role in life has changed. *Against the Wind* is a sentimental film that shows the old truly are young at heart and that universal emotions live within us all.

***Bodega*, USA**

Director: Brian Billows

Cast: Brandon Sornberger

An inexperienced robber picks the wrong convenience store to rob. He's disappointed with the lack of loot in the cash register so he opts to tie up the cashier, stash him in the back room then work at the store to make more money. Customer after customer the man shows increasingly shrewd salesmanship. Bet you can't guess what happens next.

***Ciao Tesoro (Bye-Bye Darling)*, Italy**

Director: Amadeo Procopio

Cast: Andrea Tibaldi

A nightclub with mysterious logos. The unusual adventure, described through the protagonist's memories, will end up in unexpected way.

***Dash*, USA**

Director: Natalia Leite

Cast: Alexandra Eitel, Tom Lipinski, Mike Keene

After leaving her boyfriend in a desolate gas station, an anguished woman stumbles into a moment of grace.

***Di Chi é Ora la Citta? (Whose City Is It Now?)*, Italy**

Director: Omar Pesenti

Cast: Alessandro Mucci, Jacopo Del Santo, Paolo Riva, Toni Pandolfo

A mafia war is destroying the two clans that own the city. An agreement between the bosses sees that just two chosen men, against them, will decide the result of the bloody fight.

***El Tio Facundo*, Cuba/Mexico**

Director: Alejandro Cachoua

Cast: Jorge Ali, Rafael Lahera, Carlos E. Almirante, Monica Molinet

Having lived far away from the family for years, Uncle Facundo, brings back the temptations and vices from the big city, threatening to tear the family apart.

***Finscéal Pháidí (Páidí's Tale)*, Ireland - USA PREMIERE**

Director: Colm Bairéad

Cast: Darragh Corcoran

When 9 year-old Páidí discovers his stepfather-to-be is the evil creature from Ireland's most famous myth, there's only one thing he can do. Spurred on by a mysterious Hooded Figure and the counsel of his adventurer Grandad, Páidí sets out to follow in the footsteps of the ancient Irish warriors and slay his foe, before his family is lost forever...

*Fugue*, USA

Director: Kaz Phillips

Cast: James Warke, Laine Rettmer, John Grady, Shannon Conley

Jane is recently sober and trying to get her life back together when her childhood habit of sleepwalking suddenly reappears, re-blurring the line between her waking and dreaming lives. As the divide between her two realities expands, her relationships as well as her sanity begin to suffer.

*Gilles*, Canada

Director: Constant Mentzas

Cast: H el ene Loiselle, R ejean Lefran ois

An old dying lady and her mentally deficient son go to their lake house. Facing her shortcoming, the lady tries to explain to her son that he needs to move to a foster home but he has a hard time accepting his faith.

*Gone Fishing*, United Kingdom

Director: Chris Jones

Cast: Bill Paterson, Devon Murray, James Wilson, Lin Blakley, Ruth Gemmell

Gone Fishing is the touching story of a boy and old man coming to terms with bereavement through their shared love of fishing, and the legend of Goliath, the biggest pike ever caught!

*Heavy Petting*, USA - **WORLD PREMIERE**

Directors: Eshom Nelms, Ian Nelms

Cast: Keith Staley, Deborah Baker Jr., Jenn Fee, Michelle Lang, Tom Fugedi

Relationships are complicated, lucky we have friends to help us figure them out.

*Il Male Assoluto*, Italy

Directors: Francesco Colangelo

Cast: Angela Malfitano, Clemente Pernarella, Cristina Moglia, Eleonora Carola

A unique shot to narrate forty years of Francesco' life, through the elaboration of a suffered family violence that was then dominated.

*In The Dark*, USA - **FLORIDA PREMIERE**

Director: Alex Fazeli

Cast: Maz Jobrani

January 31, 1979. After being labeled a traitor by the new revolutionary government in Iran, a double agent agrees to exchange crucial information with the CIA in exchange for safe passage out of the country.

*Interpretation*, USA

Director: Lin Oeding

Cast: Ian Bohen, Cindy Chiu, Jay Giannone, Jeremy Luke, James Harvey Ward

A romantic couple's brief encounter with several philosophical thugs unfolds in an unusual way.

*Jim With a J*, USA

Director: Brian Billows

Cast: Jim Jacob

Meet Jim. He lives in the moment, every single millisecond of it. Now listen to his unique brain as Jim goes out for a night on the town. And comes home at a reasonable hour.

***Kai's Place*, Canada - FLORIDA PREMIERE**

Director: Albert Shin

Cast: Ji Soo, Ryan Krickow

Kai, a young Westerner teaching English in Korea finds himself feeling lost and isolated in his surroundings. Determined to break free from his uneasiness, Kai reaches out to a girl in his class, which leads to a day of self-discovery and potential romance.

***Kärleksbarn (Love Child)*, Sweden – FLORIDA PREMIERE**

Director: Daniel Wirtberg

Cast: Tindra Nordgren, Cecilie Nerfont Thorgerson, Magnus Krepper

A young girl enjoys the perfect life of being the only child, when one day a new family member arrives.

***Kidnapping Caitlyn*, USA**

Director: Katherine Cunningham-Eves

Cast: Gina Girl Dog, Jason Biggs, Jenny Mollen, Julie Benz, Rhys Coiro

Emily and Max are on their second date. Emily asks Max to help her retrieve some things from her ex-boyfriend's house.

***La Tangente*, France**

Director: Vincent Vesco

Cast: Aurélien Wiik, Grappin Sarah

A young man washing his car offers an attractive woman a ride wherever she wants to go. The two set off on a journey with no plans and no direction, but as their relationship grows can they continue living their life of the rock-and-roll aesthetic or will they have to compromise and settle down?

***Laid Off By Lehman*, USA**

Director: Charles Divak, Jonathan Emmerling

Cast: Daniel Shafer

What does a Lehman Brothers' broker do with his days now?

***Land Gewinnen (Gaining Ground)*, Germany**

Director: Marc Brummund

Cast: Radik Golovkov

A young illegal immigrant couple spends their time furtively avoiding the German authorities, until the wellbeing of their young son dictates that they resolve their untenable situation.

***Me, You, A Bag & Bamboo*, USA - FLORIDA PREMIERE**

Director: Lara Everly

Cast: Ceciley Jenkins, Kirby Heyborne, Allan Havey, Bryce Hurless

Join Clifford and Chun Li, two melancholic strangers sharing a park bench, on their quirky journey as they work up the courage to say hello.

***Miracle Fish*, Australia – FLORIDA PREMIERE**

Director: Luke Doolan

Cast: Brendan Donoghue, Karl Beattie

After Joe's friends tease him, he sneaks off to the sick bay, wishing everyone would go away. He wakes up to find his dream may have become a reality.

***Mr. Brooklyn*, USA**

Director: JSOK

Cast: Al Thompson, Frank Page, Quinton Aaron

For a man with nothing, honor is everything.

***My Dead Brain*, USA**

Director: Sarah Stuve

Cast: PJ Linden, Sarah Stuve, Alex Grunberg, Anais Blondet

A young woman's satirical journey towards self discovery; traveling through surreal mindscapes, exploring gender roles, sexuality, and identity.

***Narenjak*, Australia**

Director: Mark-Alexander Hartwin

Cast: Arash Sanaei, Arian Shahbazifar, Koosha Rafie

Three boys playing with toy guns are confronted with the reality of war when they find a real grenade.

***One Tomato*, Canada - WORLD PREMIERE**

Director: Semi Chellas

Cast: Beatriz Yuste

This is a short lyric film about the anguish and hilarity of being alone.

***Only Love*, USA**

Director: Lev Polyakov

Cast: David Commander, Scott Johnston

'Only Love' is a tragicomedy about a Dictator, a Rebel, and Love. It is a darkly humorous tale of a dictator facing the ghosts of his past misdeeds, a man's eternal search for love, and the terrible price one sometimes has to pay for it.

***Open Air*, USA - WORLD PREMIERE**

Director: Shira-Lee Shalit

Cast: Lynn Cohen, Agata Domanshea, Eeva Semerdjiev

Two women, trapped in a brutal civil war, attempt to keep their friendship, daily routines and sanity, all the while an unseen sniper keeps the two within his target through the scope of his rifle.

***On The Road To Tel-Aviv*, Israel**

Director: Khen Shalem

Cast: Amos Lavie, Dana Kabesa, Guy Arieli, Orit Fisher

'On the Road to Tel-Aviv' is a dramatic story (with comedic elements) that shows how, under the tense reality of war and terror, enemies can sometimes find themselves in the same boat (or in the same bus).

***Out Of Step*, USA - WORLD PREMIERE**

Director: Eileen Connors

Cast: Gregory Jbara, Jamey Ketner, Christopher Atkins, Jonathan Fox, Ray Garcia

When a father goes to clean out his late daughter's house and discovers she was gay, he rejects the truth. But after he befriends a lesbian who is struggling with coming out, he comes to accept who his daughter was.

***Outsource*, USA - FLORIDA PREMIERE**

Director: Daniel Trezise

Cast: Judson Pearce Morgan, Kelly Overton

Max is about to awaken his long dormant desire for human contact. In his tiny cell of pure function and wall-to-wall screens, he performs menial tasks for the bourgeoisie through a robotic pod. When he discovers a way to communicate with Alice in a neighboring cell, he'll stop at nothing to reach her.

***Parental Guidance*, USA - FLORIDA PREMIERE**

Director: Meredith Scott Lynn

Cast: Ryan Ochoa, Rachel Hamilton, David Youse, Ashleigh Summer

Best friends Max and Ava go camping with their respective parents and remind each other of the mature high-road they are forced to take in light of the inadequacy of grownups.

***Pawn*, USA**

Director: Jeremiah Friedman

Cast: Lionel D. Carson, Nick Hoffa, William Russ

A young federal agent must interrogate the gunman to learn the truth behind the Presidential assassination. But once the truth is discovered, who will be ready to hear it?

***Penance*, USA**

Director: Ryan Gould

Cast: Michael Cullen, Charles Socarides, Kahn Baykal, Raymond McAnally

A story about a middle-aged, reclusive widower/owner of lawn company who's second chance at life turns tragic when he over exerts control in the budding relationship with his Autistic employee.

***Placebo*, USA**

Director: Henry Prince

Cast: Jon Prescott, Jamie Bengel, Patrick Slevin

Derek doesn't sell drugs, he sells the experience of buying drugs.

***Rolling*, USA**

Director: Justin Dec

Cast: Carlos Vega, Gabrielle Anwar

Fresh out of film school, two best friends get their big break working on a hit TV show, but they quickly learn that, to get to the top, you've got to start at the way bottom.

***Rosfeld*, Germany - US PREMIERE**

Director: Henning Rieke

Cast: Alice Esser, Frank Trunz, Jo Stock, Lutz Reichert

In 1972 NASA launches the Pioneer 10 satellite. On board it has a golden plaque with an engraved message for extraterrestrial intelligent life: The symbolic picture of our solar system and the image of a man and a woman. 36 years later in a small German village called "Rosfeld", the world is suddenly turned upside down, as an alien spacecraft appears above the towns rooftops. Finally Major Bergers big time has come...

***Second Guessing Grandma*, USA**

Director: Bob Giraldi

Cast: Kathleen Chalfant, Adam Grupper, Alex Organ, Lori Wilner

Set in 1982, true-life story of an important week in the life of a twenty-something gay man who finally comes out to his beloved grandmother in the Jersey City house he was raised in, in spite of mounting pressure from his mother and boyfriend.

***Stealing Second*, USA - FLORIDA PREMIERE**

Director: Alex Richanbach

Cast: Cameron McCormick, Chris Courtney, Alex Richanbach, Sarah Christine Smith, Zuri Bella

A comedy about talking to girls . . . and touching a boob.

***The Dreaming*, Canada - WORLD PREMIERE**

Director: Anthony Green

Cast: Devon Bostick, Michael Greyeyes, Robbie Robertson

In a setting at once foreign and familiar, past and future generations converge as a dying man struggles to make sense of the world he's leaving behind.

***The Evening Journey*, USA - WORLD PREMIERE**

Director: Ye'ela Rosenfeld

Cast: Patrick Mapel, Lina Esco, Jack Kehler, Martin Spanjers, Malcolm McDowell

"This is the story of Fishberg. A small, desolate, hard working fishing town. This is the story of those of us who live in Fishberg, of our hopes, our dreams, our beliefs that someday life can get better. This is the story of that night. The night when the train finally did stop."

***The Heart Is A Hidden Camera*, USA**

Director: Gabriel Judet-Weinshel

Cast: Jamie Harding, Zulay Henao, Janelle Viscomi, Joshua Santiago

A young boy discovers at an early age that his heart is a camera, capable of capturing the beauty and horror of the world around him.

***The Last Page*, USA**

Director: Kevin Acevedo

Cast: Andrew Burlinson, Emily Rose, Mark DeCarlo McKenna Melvin, Megan Cavanagh, Michael Rivkin

A tortured author struggles to overcome writer's block and is propelled into a bizarre series of events.

***The Milagro Peanut Butter And Jelly Sandwich Throwdown*, USA - WORLD PREMIERE**

Director: Damian Fitzsimmons

Cast: The Children of Milagro After School Program

The story of a fantastic peanut butter and jelly sandwich told from the perspective of those involved in trying to eat it. Made by the 8 and 11 year olds of the Milagro After School Program's film class in Delray Beach, Florida.

*The Obolus*, USA

Director: Mathias Roer

Cast: Jarrod Bailey, Eve Sigall, Tony Amendola

A fairy tale for adults as seen through the eyes of a child. The Obolus journeys with Michael, a boy who has lost his parents, to the mysterious world of the Bridgeman, the keeper of an ancient and beaconing lighthouse perched at the slopes of a shallow cliff.

*Traveling In Circles*, Norway/USA

Director: Katie Hetland

Cast: Linn Bjornland

Some people travel to leave and some to arrive. Some people travel to get their feet off the ground - and some to never have to put them back down.

*True Beauty This Night*, USA - **US PREMIERE**

Director: Peter Besson

Cast: Dustin Seavey, Meegan Michelle

Last night, Rhett Somers met the love of his life. Now all he has to do is convince her that she's the one. Not an easy feat considering how they met.

*Trunk*, USA

Director: Christopher D'Elia

Cast: Kyle Gallner, Zachery Bryan

A deadly accident viciously spins the moral compass of two college students in this suspenseful thriller/dark comedy set in the California desert.

*Viko*, Canada

Director: Larysa Kondracki

Cast: Luke Treadaway, Sergej Trifunovic

Former Yugoslavia. 1997. Struggling to find a way out, 17 year-old Viko leaps at a rare opportunity for black market work. But it takes him to a darker place than he could have imagined. One where monsters are not born, but made.

**VOICES OF LOCAL FILM**

*Elysium*, USA/Phillippines - **USA PREMIERE**

Director: Jason B. Lopez

Cast: Sue Prado, Martin De La Paz

A man searches for a loved one while a woman re-discovers the essence of her life. Strange things happen as reality and surrealism cross paths in this never-ending drama of life and death.

***F\*\*K The Fed***, USA

Director: Neal Fox

Cast: Neal Fox

A music video about the Federal Reserve System.

***La Huerfana (The Orphan)***, Latin America-Spanish – **US PREMIERE**

Director: Afgen Sheikh

Cast: Ashley Nvaro, Maria Amador

Two girls, as close as sisters, escape from their orphanage to make it on their own. While saving up to come to the United States, one "sister" works to protect the other from the cold realities of life, including the work she must do to keep her "sister's" dream of a new life alive.

***Pear***, USA

Director: Jill Siegel

A little pear discovers his likeness

***The Curse Of Micah Rood***, USA - **FLORIDA PREMIERE**

Director: Alec Asten

Cast: Ron Palillo, Brian Ellsworth, Joe Gramm

Based on an old legend from Norwich, Connecticut...Micah Rood cherishes his privacy and his precious apple orchard. When a wily peddler stays the night, Rood accuses him of stealing his apples, and commits a violent deed that soon taints the fruit of his orchard with the blood of guilt.

*Best of New England – Rhode Island Horror Film Festival****The Outlaw Emmett Deemus & The Porno Queen***, USA

Director: Alex Ferrari

Cast: *Academy Award Nominated* Larry Hankin and MAD TV's Jilly-Michele Melean

The story tells about Emmett Deemus, a crazy, outlaw biker and his adventures on the road. In this adventure, Emmett stumbles across a porno queen and all hell breaks loose.

*Best Comedy Short at the Melbourne Independent Film Festival*

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