



## NEWS RELEASE

### **DIRECTOR JOHN BADHAM JOINS TEACHING STAFF AT AFI CONSERVATORY**

LOS ANGELES, November 14, 2002 – Director/producer John Badham (STAKEOUT, SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER) will join the faculty of the AFI Conservatory this month to lead directing seminars, it was announced today by James Hindman, Provost of the AFI Conservatory.

Badham will lead workshops addressing the professional relationship between directors and actors for current fellows on the AFI Campus.

“We are very pleased to have John Badham joining AFI to lead these workshops,” said Hindman. “He possesses valuable experience and acquired wisdom to share with the emerging artists at the AFI Conservatory.”

The AFI Conservatory is an accredited Master of Fine Arts program that trains aspiring filmmakers in six disciplines: Cinematography, Directing, Editing, Producing, Production Design and Screenwriting. Emerging artists learn by working with experienced masters in cinema, television and the digital arts in an environment that mimics the creative process and demands of the real world of filmmaking and television. Faculty members serve as mentors to Conservatory Fellows as they master their chosen disciplines and oversee the direction and production of the Second Year Fellows’ thesis films.

#### **About John Badham**

Director John Badham has enjoyed critical praise and box office success during a career distinguished by its range and diversity. He guided John Travolta to worldwide fame in SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER, which went on to become one of the top-grossing films of all time, ushering in the era of disco music and fashion. Badham continued his rise to the forefront of the film world with the dual release of BLUE THUNDER and WARGAMES, which together received four Academy Award® nominations. Over the years, Badham has worked with many distinguished actors, including Wesley Snipes (DROP ZONE), Johnny Depp (NICK OF TIME), Jenna Elfman (in the upcoming OBSESSED), Mel Gibson and Goldie Hawn (BIRD ON A WIRE), Bridget Fonda (POINT OF NO RETURN) and Emilio Estevez and Richard Dreyfuss (STAKEOUT). The British-born director, who currently resides in Beverly Hills, moved to Los Angeles after receiving his Master’s Degree from the Yale School of Drama. Badham landed a job in the mailroom at Universal Studios, moving up through the ranks learning

casting, cutting trailers and eventually directing episodic television. Badham has worked on FX's current hit series THE SHIELD, along with such landmark shows as THE SENATOR (for which he received an Emmy nomination), THE LAW (for which he received his second Emmy nomination), NIGHT GALLERY and THE STREETS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

Badham's book, *Directors Working With Actors*, will be published in spring 2003. Shotmaster, the software program he designed which is a popular storyboarding computer program for directors, is currently available on the Web.

### **About AFI**

AFI is the preeminent organization dedicated to advancing and preserving the art of film, television and other forms of the moving image. AFI trains the next generation of filmmakers, coordinates nationwide film preservation efforts and explores new technologies in movie making. AFI also presents the best of film through the AFI Los Angeles International Film Festival (AFI FEST); the AFI National Theater at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC; the AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center in Silver Spring, Maryland (opening in 2003); and the annual AFI Life Achievement Award, the highest honor given for a career in film.

More information about AFI can be found by visiting its award-winning Web site, located at [www.AFI.com](http://www.AFI.com).

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