

 **AFI FEST 2005**

NOV 3-13

PRESENTED BY  Audi

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**AFI FEST 2005 PRESENTED BY AUDI
ANNOUNCES AWARD WINNERS**

**"WINTER KISS" RECEIVES GRAND JURY PRIZE FOR BEST FEATURE,
WHILE "THE REFUGEE ALL STARS" NAMED FOR AQUAFINA PURE VISION AWARD FOR
BEST DOCUMENTARY,
"DELIVERY" WINS JURY AND AUDIENCE AWARD FOR BEST SHORT**

**"THROUGH THE FIRE" WINS NETFLIX AUDIENCE AWARD FOR BEST DOCUMENTARY,
"TSOTSI" AND "C.R.A.Z.Y." TIE FOR BEST FEATURE**

November 13, 2005 (Los Angeles)—AFI FEST presented by Audi announces its 2005 Award winners with Norway's *KISSED BY WINTER* as the winner of the Grand Jury Prize for International Feature Competition. *THE REFUGEE ALL STARS* received the Aquafina Pure Vision Award International Documentary Grand Jury Prize of a \$10,000 unrestricted grant for filmmakers Zach Niles and Banker White. The Shorts Jury Prize went to Germany's *DELIVERY*, who also received the Audience Award for Best Short.

Meanwhile, the Audience Award for Best Feature Film was a tie between Canada's *C.R.A.Z.Y.* and South Africa/UK's *TSOTSI*. *THROUGH THE FIRE* won the NETFLIX Audience Award for Best Documentary—a \$5,000 unrestricted grant for directors Jonathan Hock and Alistair Christopher.

"We received a great deal of positive feedback from the jurors and audience about the line-up this year," said Nancy Collet, AFI FEST's Director of Programming. "We're very pleased with the number of special mentions, as this is indicative of the quality of the films."

AFI FEST 2005 kicked off with the Johnny Cash biopic *WALK THE LINE*, directed by James Mangold and starring Joaquin Phoenix and Reese Witherspoon. Other highlights included the two Centerpiece Galas: *THE WORLD'S FASTEST INDIAN* and *THE THREE BURIALS OF MELQUIADES ESTRADA*, and the Closing Night Gala, *CASANOVA*, directed by Lasse Hallström, which made its North American premiere following the Awards Ceremony. Overall, the festival showcased 127 films from 44 different countries—20 World Premieres, 21 North American Premieres and 18 US Premieres.

Here are the award winners:

JURY AWARDS

INTERNATIONAL SHORTS COMPETITION

GRAND JURY PRIZE

DELIVERY (Germany)

Director/Producer/Screenwriter/Editor: Till Nowak

SPECIAL MENTION

LUCKY (South Africa)

Dir/Scr/Prod: Avie Luthra

GREEN BUSH (Australia)

Dir/Scr: Warwick Thornton; Prod: Kath Shelper

Jurors: Filmmaker Quentin Lee; Filmmaker Patty Jenkins, DP Amy Vincent

AQUAFINA PURE VISION AWARD

INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION GRAND JURY PRIZE

(\$10,000 unrestricted grant)

THE REFUGEE ALL STARS (USA)

Directors: Zach Niles and Banker White; Prod: Zach Niles

SPECIAL MENTION

FACTOR 8: THE ARKANSAS PRISON BLOOD SCANDAL (USA/Canada)

Dir/Scr/Prod/Ed: Kelly Duda

"For investigative thoroughness, and in particular the tenacity and courage of the filmmaker, Kelly Duda." - Jurors

Jurors: Filmmaker Fenton Bailey; Filmmaker Penelope Spheeris; Filmmaker Sean Welch

INTERNATIONAL FEATURE COMPETITION

GRAND JURY PRIZE

KISSED BY WINTER/ VINTERKYSS (Norway)

Dir: Sara Johsen; Scr: Ståle Stein Berg; Prod: Christian Fredrik Martin, Asle Vatn

SPECIAL MENTION

TSOTSI (South Africa/UK)

Dir/Scr: Gavin Hood; Prod: Peter Fudakowski

Jurors: Actress Tamlyn Tomita; DP Wally Pfister; Film Critic Jean Oppenheimer

The Jury Award winners above received film-related prizes from our sponsors including Eastman Kodak Company, Adobe Systems, Variety, Indiewire, Avid, Entertainment Partners, Final Draft, Hollywood Creative Directory, Amoeba Music and Virgin Megastore.

AUDIENCE AWARDS

BEST SHORT FILM

DELIVERY (Germany)

Director/Producer/Screenwriter/Editor: Till Nowak

NETFLIX AUDIENCE AWARD FOR BEST DOCUMENTARY (\$5,000 unrestricted grant)

THROUGH THE FIRE (USA)

Dir: Jonathan Hock and Alistair Christopher; Co-Prod: Philip Aromando

BEST FEATURE FILM - TIE

C.R.A.Z.Y.

Dir: Jean-Marc Vallée, Scr: Jean-Marc Vallée and François Boulay; Prod: Pierre Even

TSOTSI (South Africa/UK)

Dir: Gavin Hood; Scr: Gavin Hood, based on the novel by Athol Fugard; Prod: Peter Fudakowski

Audience Award winners above received film-related prizes from our sponsors including Adobe Systems, Variety, Indiewire, Avid, Entertainment Partners, Final Draft, Hollywood Creative Directory, Amoeba Music and Virgin Megastore. Ballots for the Audience Award were made available by the Los Angeles Times: The Envelope.

To find out more about AFI FEST visit www.AFI.com or call 1.866.AFI.FEST.

About AFI FEST 2005 presented by Audi

AFI is a national institute providing leadership in screen education and the recognition and celebration of excellence in the art of film, television and digital media. Now in its 19th year, AFI FEST presented by Audi: AFI Los Angeles International Film Festival is the longest-running film festival in Los Angeles and one of the most influential film festivals in North America. The Festival spans 10 days each November, featuring international competitions of brand new films from emerging filmmakers, global showcases of the latest work from great film masters and nightly red-carpet gala premieres.

In 2004, AFI FEST and the American Film Market established a strategic alliance, creating the only festival/market combination in North America. This alliance has successfully resulted in a unique combination of commerce and culture. The AFM runs November 2-9, 2005. For more information, visit www.americanfilmmarket.com.

AFI FEST 2005 presented by Audi is supported in part by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Arts Commission, the Cultural Affairs Department of the City of Los Angeles and the Hollywood Sign Trust. Special support is provided by the Academy Foundation of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. AFI FEST is proud to continue its collaborative partnership with the Skirball Cultural Center. Made in Germany is made possible through the cooperation and support of the German

Film Services + Marketing GMBH. NEW FACES IN EUROPEAN CINEMA is made possible through the cooperation and support of European Film Promotion.

AFI FEST 2005 presented by Audi is sponsored in part by American Airlines, ArLight Hollywood, Absolut Vodka, Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, Best Buy, Eastman Kodak Company, Midway Car Rental, Aquafina and Stella Artois. The New York Times is the Festival's Presenting Media Partner. Additional partners include Indie 103.1, LA Weekly and Univision.

About Audi of America

Audi of America is headquartered in Auburn Hills, Michigan, and markets performance-oriented European luxury vehicles: the sporty A4 sedan, A4 Avant and A4 Cabriolet models—the perfect union of power and control; the everyday sports car in the form of the S4 sedan, S4 Avant and the S4 Cabriolet; the birth of Audi's sports car tradition—the TT Coupe and Roadster; the broad range of bold A6 sedans—the beautiful A6 Avant and the versatile allroad Quattro; and the most progressive premium luxury car, the A8 in both extended and normal wheelbase versions. For more information about additional Audi-related events and corporate news, visit www.audiusa.com.

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INTERNATIONAL SHORTS COMPETITION JURY

Quentin Lee – Filmmaker

Quentin Lee is a filmmaker based in Los Angeles, Vancouver and Hong Kong. ETHAN MAO, his most recent feature, had its World Premiere at AFI FEST 2004. His other features include DRIFT (2000), SHOPPING FOR FANGS (1997) and FLOW (1996).

Patty Jenkins – Filmmaker

After graduating as a painter and experienced filmmaker from Cooper Union, filmmaker Patty Jenkins worked for six years as a first assistant camera person on hundreds of commercials, films and music videos with directors such as Dominic Sena, Tarsem Singh, Ted Demme, Wayne Isham and Brett Ratner. In 2000, Jenkins graduated from AFI's Directing program. Her short film, VELOCITY RULES, appeared in AFI FEST 2001, where Jenkins met producer/manager Brad Wyman at the Kodak CONNECT program and began a conversation that stumbled across the topic of Aileen Wuornos, the female serial killer who was at that time on Florida's death row. Jenkins went on to write Wuornos' story in MONSTER and convinced Charlize Theron to join the project, who also signed on with Wyman as one of the producers. MONSTER was named Best First Feature by the 2004 Independent Spirit Awards, was selected as one of the 10 best films of the year by AFI and was selected as the "Best Film of the Year" by critic Roger Ebert. The film garnered an Oscar®, Golden Globe, Berlinale Silver Bear and numerous other awards for its lead actress, Charlize Theron. Jenkins recently finished directing an episode of Fox's hit television series ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT and is currently working on her next feature film.

Amy Vincent – Director of Photography

Amy Vincent, ASC, holds a Master's degree in Cinematography from the American Film Institute. She came up through the ranks as an assistant and camera operator on crews led by some of the industry's top cinematographers, including John Lindley, Robert Richardson, Darius Wolski, Peter Deming and Bill Pope. She received a Golden Satellite Award nomination in 1998 for EVE'S BAYOU, Women in Film's Kodak Vision Award in 2001 and the 2005 Sundance Film Festival Cinematography Award for HUSTLE & FLOW. Vincent's credits also include THE CAVEMAN'S VALENTINE, JAWBREAKER and FREEDOM SONG, as well as second unit photography on LEMONY SNICKET'S A SERIES OF UNFORTUNATE EVENTS and BEWITCHED. Vincent has just completed principal photography on Craig Brewer's (HUSTLE & FLOW) new film, BLACK SNAKE MOAN.

INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION JURY

Fenton Bailey – Filmmaker

Award-winning film director and producer Fenton Bailey founded World of Wonder Productions after meeting Randy Barbato in 1990. Since then, they have directed and produced a wide variety of documentaries featured in the US and the UK, including MONICA BLACK AND WHITE, about the much maligned Monica Lewinsky; THE EYES OF TAMMY FAYE, about Tammy Faye Baker; PORNOGRAPHY: THE SECRET HISTORY OF CIVILIZATION; ANDY WARHOL: THE COMPLETE PICTURE; and GAY REPUBLICANS, which won the Documentary Audience Award at AFI FEST 2004 presented by Audi. Earlier this

year, Bailey and Barbato debuted their latest film, *INSIDE DEEP THROAT*. The film explores the cultural impact of the 1972 film *DEEP THROAT* through the lens of the sexual revolution of the late 1960s and early 1970s. This year, the filmmakers also revisited an old friend in *TAMMY FAYE: DEATH DEFYING*, which chronicles the televangelist's victorious battle against cancer.

Penelope Spheeris – Filmmaker

Penelope Spheeris graduated from UCLA Film School with a Master of Fine Arts degree in Theater Arts, and worked as a film editor and cinematographer before forming her own production company, Rock 'n' Reel, the first music video company in Los Angeles, producing and directing music videos. Spheeris' early feature credits include *REAL LIFE*, *THE BOYS NEXT DOOR* and *DUDES*. She directed the critically acclaimed documentary films *THE DECLINE OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION*, *THE DECLINE II: THE METAL YEARS*, and, most recently, *THE DECLINE PART III*, a film she financed herself, with profits donated to charities for homeless and abused children. In 1992, Spheeris directed her first studio film, the box office smash *WAYNE'S WORLD* and has subsequently directed and produced *THE BEVERLY HILLBILLIES*, *THE LITTLE RASCALS*, *BLACK SHEEP*, *SENSELESS* and the Ozzfest documentary, *WE SOLD OUR SOULS FOR ROCK 'N ROLL*. Her latest movie, *THE KID & I*, about a young man with cerebral palsy, was produced and directed by Spheeris and is World Premiering at AFI FEST 2005 presented by Audi.

Sean Welch - Filmmaker

Sean Welch moved back to Los Angeles after spending his more formative years in Berkeley, CA, working as a carpenter and playing semi-pro soccer. Since returning, he has worked on the feature films *CRIMSON TIDE* and *FACE/OFF* and begun producing commercials. In addition to work, Welch has made traveling and photography a priority and has backpacked through South America, Europe, North America, Africa, Southeast Asia, the Caribbean and the Middle East, believing his journeys are the midwives of thought. *SPELLBOUND* was his first feature film and his first documentary. Sean recently finished production on a narrative feature written and directed by Jeff Blitz, director of *SPELLBOUND*.

INTERNATIONAL FEATURE COMPETITION

Tamlyn Tomita – Actress

Critically acclaimed and award-winning actress Tamlyn Tomita most recently appeared in the feature film *ONLY THE BRAVE*. Her credits include *THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW*, *ROBOT STORIES*, *THE JOY LUCK CLUB*, *PICTURE BRIDE*, *COME SEE THE PARADISE*, *THE KARATE KID PART II*, *FOUR ROOMS* and *LIVING OUT LOUD*. Television credits include *STARGATE SG-1*, *JAG*, *24*, *THE SHIELD*, *WILL AND GRACE*, *CROSSING JORDAN*, *CHICAGO HOPE*, *PROVIDENCE*, *SISTERS*, *QUANTUM LEAP*, *NASH BRIDGES* and PBS' *STORYTIME*. Stage credits include *A Distant Shore* (Kirk Douglas Theatre), *The Square* (Taper, Too), *Summer Moon* (ACT Seattle/South Coast Repertory), *Day Standing on its Head* (Manhattan Theatre Club), *Nagasaki Dust* (Philadelphia Theatre Company), *Don Juan: A Meditation* (Taper, Too) and *Winter Crane* (Fountain Theatre).

Wally Pfister – Director of Photography

Wally Pfister, ASC, has photographed over 25 feature films since making the transition from a successful career as a documentary filmmaker in the 1980s. His feature film credits include *BATMAN BEGINS*, *MEMENTO* and *INSOMNIA* for acclaimed director Christopher Nolan, as well as *THE ITALIAN JOB* and *LAUREL CANYON*. Pfister has won numerous awards for his work, including an Independent Spirit Award nomination for his photography on *MEMENTO* and was named as one of “Ten Cinematographers to Watch” by *Variety* in 2000. In addition to his feature film credits, he has photographed over 100 commercials for various clients. Pfister is a member of the American Society of Cinematographers, as well as the International Camera Guild and the Directors Guild of America.

Jean Oppenheimer– Film Critic

Jean Oppenheimer is a film critic on National Public Radio (KPCC's Film Week), as well as in print for *Screen International* and the *New Times* chain of alternative newsweeklies. She is a Contributing Writer at *American Cinematographer* magazine and freelances for *The New York Times* syndicate. Oppenheimer served three years as president of the Los Angeles Film Critics Association.