AFI FEST 2011 presented by Audi
ANNOUNCES YOUNG AMERICANS AND NEW AUTEURS TITLES
Emerging U.S. and First and Second-Time Global Filmmakers Showcased

SPOTLIGHT SECTION ON ACCLAIMED DIRECTOR JOE SWANBERG ALSO ANNOUNCED

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AFI FEST

Editor’s note: The official festival name is “AFI FEST 2011 presented by Audi” and should be referred to as such at least once within a story.

LOS ANGELES, CA, October 13, 2011 – AFI FEST 2011 presented by Audi announced today the films that will be featured in the festival’s Young Americans, New Auteurs and Spotlight sections at the 25th edition this November. Young Americans features work by emerging U.S. filmmakers, while New Auteurs highlights first and second-time feature film directors from around the world. This year’s Spotlight section focuses on acclaimed independent American filmmaker Joe Swanberg, featuring presentations of films from his Full Moon Trilogy – SILVER BULLETS, ART HISTORY and the world premiere of THE ZONE. Swanberg’s intimate storytelling process centers on the intersection of art and life, and he has worked with a number of the actors and filmmakers featured in Young Americans and New Auteurs.

“The filmmakers in the Young Americans and New Auteurs sections have bold new stories to tell and they are telling them in ways that are unexpected – these are filmmakers who are taking risks,” said Jacqueline Lyanga, Festival Director of AFI FEST. “And Joe Swanberg, whose intimate stories challenge conventionality, is one of the most prolific young independent filmmakers in America. He’s made five films just this past year, three of which we’ll be showing at AFI FEST.”

“We’re showcasing a diverse group of American independent filmmakers, from award-winning documentarians to well-established experimental filmmakers, whose stories range from unusual comedies to intimate personal dramas,” said Lane Kneedler, Associate Director of Programming at AFI FEST. “We’re delighted to welcome this group of filmmakers to AFI FEST, including AFI Conservatory alumna Alison Bagnall and her film, THE DISH & THE SPOON.” The AFI Conservatory was rated the #1 film school in the world by The Hollywood Reporter for the quality of its instructors and speakers, and its “glittering parade of alumni.”

The 2011 edition of AFI FEST will also mark the debut of a jury-selected New Auteurs Critics Prize, which will be awarded to one film in this section.

AFI FEST will take place November 3 through 10 in Hollywood, California, at The Chinese, the Chinese 6 Theatres, the Egyptian Theatre and the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel.

Free tickets are available for all films starting October 27. Festival attendees can avoid rush lines and gain access to all regular screenings without a ticket by purchasing an AFI FEST Cinepass for $250. AFI members and AFI Conservatory alumni have a one-day early access window to individual tickets on October 26 and receive a 10% discount on pass purchases. Priority access, reserved seating at galas and other benefits can be secured by purchasing a tax-deductible AFI FEST Patron Package. For more information, visit AFI.com/AFIFEST.
NEW AUTEURS SELECTIONS
The New Auteurs section highlights first and second-time feature film directors from around the world.

BONSAI: DIR/SCR Cristián Jiménez. Chile/France/Argentina/Portugal.
HANAAN: DIR/SCR Ruslan Pak. Russia/South Korea/Uzbek.
THE LONELEST PLANET: DIR/SCR Julia Loktev. USA/Germany.
MICHAEL: DIR/SCR Markus Schleinzer. Austria.
RESTLESS CITY: DIR Andrew Dosunmu. SCR Eugene Gussenhoven. USA.
SNOWTOWN: DIR Justin Kurzel. SCR Justin Kurzel, Shaun Grant. Australia.

YOUNG AMERICANS SELECTIONS
The Young Americans section features work by emerging U.S. filmmakers.

THE COLOR WHEEL: DIR Alex Ross Perry. SCR Alex Ross Perry, Carlen Altman.
THE DISH & THE SPOON: DIR Alison Bagnall. SCR Alison Bagnall, Andrew Lewis.
DRAGONSLAYER: DIR Tristan Patterson. (Documentary)
GREEN: DIR/SCR Sophia Takal.
SPARK OF BEING: DIR Bill Morrison. (Experimental)
WUSS: DIR/SCR Clay Liford.

SPOTLIGHT ON JOE SWANBERG
SILVER BULLETS: DIR/SCR Joe Swanberg.

Film stills and director headshots are available for press use only and can be downloaded at flickr.com/photos/afifestpublicity/collections.

About the American Film Institute
AFI is America’s promise to preserve the history of the motion picture, to honor the artists and their work and to educate the next generation of storytellers.

AFI provides leadership in film, television and digital media and is dedicated to initiatives that engage the past, the present and the future of the moving image arts. AFI programs include the AFI Catalog of Feature Films and Archive, the AFI Life Achievement Award, now in its 40th year, AFI Awards, honoring the most outstanding motion pictures and television programs of the year, AFI Fest presented by Audi, celebrating its 25th edition this fall, AFI-Discovery Channel Silverdocs, AFI Silver Theatre and the AFI Conservatory, which was named the #1 film school in the world by The Hollywood Reporter.

Additional information about AFI is available at AFI.com.

About AFI FEST
Celebrating its 25th year as a program of the American Film Institute, AFI FEST 2011 presented by Audi will take place November 3 through 10 in the heart of Hollywood. Kicking off the awards season each year, AFI FEST offers a crucial avenue of exposure to the entertainment community, while providing appreciative audiences with a festive atmosphere and the very best of global cinema, right in the center of the film capital of the world.

The American Film Market (AFM), November 2 through 9, 2011, is the market partner of AFI FEST. Together, AFI FEST and AFM provide the only concurrent festival-market event in North America. AFI FEST is the only FIAPF-
accredited film festival in the United States. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences recognizes AFI FEST as a qualifying festival for the Short Films category for the annual Academy Awards®.

Audi is the presenting sponsor of AFI FEST. Additional sponsors include AT&T, Merrill Lynch Wealth Management, Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas; Levi’s®, Stella Artois, Hollywood & Highland, Entertainment Weekly, Los Angeles Times and American Airlines, the official airline of AFI.

AFI FEST is supported in part by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Arts Commission.

Additional information about AFI FEST 2011 presented by Audi is available at AFI.com/AFIFEST. Connect with AFI FEST at facebook.com/AFIFEST, twitter.com/AFIFEST and youtube.com/AFIFEST.

About Audi
Audi of America, Inc. and its U.S. dealers offer a full line of German-engineered luxury vehicles. AUDI AG is among the most successful luxury automotive brands globally. During 2010 Audi was the top performing luxury brand in Europe, and broke all-time company sales records in the U.S. Over the next few years, AUDI AG will invest nearly $16 billion on new products and technologies. Visit audiusa.com or audiusanews.com for more information regarding Audi vehicle and business issues.

About AFM
The business of independent motion picture production and distribution reaches its peak every year at the AFM, when more than 8,000 industry leaders converge in Santa Monica for eight days of deal-making, screenings, premieres, networking, parties and conferences. Participants come from more than 70 countries and include acquisition and development executives, agents, attorneys, directors, distributors, festival directors, financiers, film commissioners, producers, writers, the world’s press and all those who provide services to the motion picture industry. The AFM is produced by the Independent Film & Television Alliance (IFTA). More information is online at AmericanFilmMarket.com.

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NEW AUTEURS SELECTIONS

ATTENBERG: Awaiting her father’s impending death, 23-year-old Marina explores her newly awakened sexuality through lessons from her only friend Bella and with Spyros, a visiting engineer. DIR/SCR Athina Rachel Tsangari. CAST Ariane Labed, Vangelis Mourikis, Evangelia Randou, Yorgos Lanthimos. Greece.

BONSIA: In Cristian Jiménez’s wry and nostalgic tale of love and literature, struggling writer Julio revisits and revises his memories of his college romance with Emilia. DIR/SCR Cristián Jiménez. CAST Diego Naguera, Natalia Galgani, Gabriela Arancibia, Trinidad González, Hugo Medina. Chile/Argentina/Portugal.

BULLHEAD: BULLHEAD is a gripping portrait of Jacky (Matthias Schoenaerts), a cattle farmer whose ‘juicing’ has transformed him into a bull of a man. DIR/SCR Michaël R. Roskam. CAST Matthias Schoenaerts, Jeroen Perceval, Jeanne Dandoy, Barbara Sarafian, Frank Lammers. Belgium.

HANAAN: In this gritty crime drama, Stas, a drug-addicted cop, retreats to the Uzbek Mountains to kick his habit and plot revenge for a friend’s death. DIR/SCR Ruslan Pak. CAST Stanislav Tyan, Bahadir Musaev, Ilbek Faiziev, Dmitry Eum, Ruslan Pak. Russia/South Korea/Uzbekistan.

MICHAEL: In his debut film, director Markus Schleinzer crafts a superb thriller about seemingly normal Michael and his relationship with 10-year-old Wolfgang. DIR/SCR Markus Schleinzer. CAST Michael Fuith, David Rauchenberger, Christine Kain, Ursula Strauss, Viktor Tremmel, Gisela Salcher. Austria.


RESTLESS CITY: New York City is gorgeously photographed in this story of an African immigrant in love with music and a beautiful woman he cannot have. DIR Andrew Dosunmu. SCR Eugene Gussenhoven. CAST Dania Gurira, Anthony Okungbowa, Sy Alassane, Sky Grey, Babs Olusanmokin. USA.

SNOWTOWN: In his feature film debut, director Justin Kurzel brings to the screen the horrifying true story of Australia’s most notorious serial killer. DIR Justin Kurzel. SCR Justin Kurzel, Shaun Grant. CAST Lucas Pittaway, Daniel Henshall, Louise Harris. Australia.

YOUNG AMERICANS SELECTIONS

THE COLOR WHEEL: Bickering siblings JR and Colin embark on a comedic and cathartic road trip through the diners, motels and thrift stores of the Northeast. DIR Alex Ross Perry. SCR Alex Ross Perry, Carleen Altman. CAST Carleen Altman, Bob Byington, Kate Lyn Sheil, Ann Bak-Kvapil, Ry Russo-Young, Alex Ross Perry, Craig Butta. C. Mason Well, Roy Thomas. USA.

THE DISH & THE SPOON: Hellbent on revenge, rage-filled Rose seeks out her husband’s lover but is derailed when she steps up an unlikely relationship with a quiet teenage boy. DIR Alison Bagnall. SCR Alison Bagnall, Andrew Lewis. CAST Gretta Gerwig, Olly Alexander, Eleonore Hindricks, Amy Seimetz, Adam Rothenberg. USA.

DRAGONSLAYER: DRAGONSLAYER captures the life and times of Josh “Skreech” Sandoval, a local skate legend and new father, as his endless summer finally collides with the future. DIR Tristan Patterson. USA.

GREEN: Genevieve, an intellectual New Yorker, moves to the rural South with her boyfriend, where a friendship with a local woman sends her spiraling into jealousy. DIR/SCR Sophia Takal. CAST Kate Lyn Sheil, Sophia Takal, Lawrence Michael Levine. USA.

SPARK OF BEING: Award-winning experimental film director Bill Morrison masterfully retells the classic tale of Frankenstein, using meticulously repurposed found footage. DIR Bill Morrison. USA.

WUSS: Mega-dork Mitch is a substitute teacher who finds himself forced to take a stand when his students take their ridicule too far. DIR/SCR Clay Liford. CAST Nate Rubin, Alicia Anthony, Alex Karpovsky, Jonny Mars, Tony Hale, Chris Gardner, Jennifer Sipes. USA.

SPOTLIGHT ON JOE SWANBERG

SILVER BULLETS: In the first film of his Full Moon Trilogy, director Joe Swanberg explores autobiographical issues of filmmaking, sex and the collision of art and reality. DIR/SCR Joe Swanberg. CAST Kate Lyn Sheil, Ti West, Amy Seimetz, Joe Swanberg, Jane Adams, Larry Fessenden, Sean Price Williams. USA.

ART HISTORY: In the middle chapter of his Full Moon Trilogy, Joe Swanberg plays a filmmaker directing his wife and his friend in an intensely erotic film. DIR Joe Swanberg. SCR Joe Swanberg, Josephine Decker, Kent Osborne. CAST Josephine Decker, Joe Swanberg, Kent Osborne, Adam Wingard, Kris Swanberg. USA.

THE ZONE: A veritable Russian doll of films nesting within films, the final chapter of Swanberg’s trilogy pushes the boundaries of the fourth wall beyond reality. DIR/SCR Joe Swanberg. CAST Sophia Takal, Lawrence Michael Levine, Kate Lyn Sheil, Kentucker Audley, Joe Swanberg, Adam Wingard, Dustin Guy Defa. World Premiere.