

PRESS RELEASE

2009 AFI DALLAS International Film Festival Presented by NorthPark Center, Founding Sponsor Victory Park Announces Fifteen Titles in Official Selections

FILMS INCLUDE THREE WORLD PREMIERES AND FOUR U.S. PREMIERES

Dallas, TX, February 3, 2009—AFI DALLAS 2009 International Film Festival Presented by NorthPark Center, Founding Sponsor Victory Park announces fifteen films that will screen at this year's festival (March 26 – April 2) including the World Premieres of the documentaries ONE NATION, PLAYGROUND and ROCK PROPHECIES as well as the U.S. Premieres of THE AMERICAN TRAP, FOOD, INC., GIGANTIC and THE SEVEN OF DARAN.

The three world premiere documentaries include:

Justin Wilson's ONE NATION – the film utilizes a pastiche of images and sounds to create an artful profile of the year, 1968. The film examines the struggles of power vs. protest, affluence vs. poverty, and human rights vs. the tyranny of want and ignorance.

Libby Spears's PLAYGROUND - Executive produced by Steven Soderbergh and George Clooney, the film follows a young woman and other children like her, who are victims of the American child sex trafficking industry. Examining America's legal and social system, the film delicately and responsibly details our country's most alarming, insidious secret.

John Chester's ROCK PROPHECIES – The film is a backstage pass into the eccentric world of rock n' roll from the vantage point of an obsessed photographer, Robert M. Knight, who at 18 years old captured and befriended Jimi Hendrix and the members of Led Zeppelin, well before they became the iconic stars we know them as today.

Among the U.S. premieres are:

Charles Biname's THE AMERICAN TRAP - A thriller set in a world of global intrigue and corruption, as a man attempts to uncover the truths behind the JFK assassination.

Robert Keener's **FOOD, INC.** – The documentary takes a look at food preparation, industrialized and otherwise for the mass population, exposing the highly mechanized underbelly that's been hidden from the American consumer with the consent of our government's regulatory agencies, the USDA and FDA.

Matt Aselton's **GIGANTIC** – Starring Paul Dano, Zooey Deschanel, John Goodman, Jane Alexander, Edward Asner, the offbeat comedy is centered around a mattress salesman who wants to adopt a Chinese baby, and a young woman he meets at his store. Together, they negotiate their increasing intimacy, and the appearances of their many eccentric relatives, as Brian awaits the call from the adoption agency.

Lourens Blok's **THE SEVEN OF DARAN** – Children's tale follows an English boy on an African Adventure with the help of a talking giraffe and a precious medallion.

AFI DALLAS also announces two films that recently played at the Sundance Film Festival that will screen for Dallas audiences for the first time at AFI DALLAS – **ART & COPY** and **LYMELIFE**, as well as **ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN ARE UNDEAD**, which just debuted at the Slamdance Film Festival.

"We are delighted to bring to Dallas audiences these initial 15 selections, which display an exciting breadth of film work, challenging viewers from several standpoints: be it intellectually, visually or conceptually," said Michael Cain, AFI DALLAS Artistic Director.

The fifteen announced selections include:

THE AMERICAN TRAP (Canada)

Director: Charles Biname'

Cast: Gerard Darmon, Colm Feore, Joe Cobden, Janet Lane

A thriller set in a world of global intrigue and corruption, as a man attempts to uncover the truths behind the JFK assassination.

ART & COPY (U.S.A.)

Director: Doug Pray

Documentary explores the creation of the modern advertising industry, the people behind it, and its influence on popular culture.

THE BURNING PLAIN (U.S.A.)

Director: Guillermo Arriaga

Cast: Charlize Theron, Kim Basinger

A drama with employs multiple storylines featuring a mother and daughter who try to form a bond after the young woman's difficult childhood.

FOOD, INC. (Canada)

Director: Robert Kenner

Documentary takes a look at food preparation, industrialized and otherwise for the mass population.

GIGANTIC (U.S.A.)

Director: Matt Aselton

Cast: Paul Dano, Zooey Deschanel, John Goodman, Jane Alexander, Ed Asner
Comedy is centered around a mattress salesman and a young woman he meets at his store.

HUNGER (United Kingdom)

Director: Steve McQueen

Cast: Michael Fassbender, Liam Cunningham, Stuart Graham, Liam McMahon
Drama takes a harrowing look at the last six weeks in the life of imprisoned Irish hunger striker Bobby Sands.

LYMELIFE (U.S.A.)

Director: Derick Martini

Cast: Alec Baldwin, Kieran Culkin, Rory Culkin, Jill Hennessy, Timothy Hutton, Cynthia Nixon, Emma Roberts

Drama set in Long Island during the late 1970s, follows the intertwining lives of two families focusing on the teenaged children and their attempts to cope with the times.

ONE NATION (USA)

Director: Justin Wilson

Documentary provides an artful look at 1968 through a pastiche of images from that year.

PLAYGROUND (USA)

Director: Libby Spears

Executive Producers: Steven Soderbergh, George Clooney

Documentary explores the rampant worldwide child sex trafficking industry.

RIP A REMIX MANIFESTO (Canada)

Director: Brett Gaylor

Documentary looks at the changing landscape of music in The Internet Age focusing on the line between musical inspiration and copyright infringement.

ROCK PROPHECIES (USA)

Director: John Chester

The documentary is a backstage pass into the eccentric world of rock n' roll from the vantage point of an obsessed photographer, Robert M. Knight, who at 18

years old captured and befriended Jimi Hendrix and the members of Led Zeppelin, well before they became the iconic stars we know them as today.

ROSENCRANTZ AND GULDENSTERN ARE UNDEAD (USA)

Director: Jordan Galland

Cast: Jake Hoffman, Devon Aoki, Ralph Macchio, Jeremy Sisto

Comedy about a theater director who finds himself in the middle of a two thousand year old conspiracy involving Shakespeare, the Holy Grail and vampires.

THE SEVEN OF DARAN (USA)

Director: Lourens Blok

Cast: Jonathan Harmse, Ketrice Maitisa, Caroline Goodall

Children's tale follows an English boy on an African adventure with the help of a talking giraffe and a precious medallion.

SKIN (UK/South Africa)

Director: Anthony Fabian

Cast: Sophie Okonedo, Sam Neill, Alice Krige

Set in 1955 and based on a true story, the film looks at the social and personal impact on two white Afikaner parents and their daughter in rural South Africa, after the girl is born with dark skin.

SUGAR (USA)

Director: Anna Boden and Ryan Fleck

Cast: Algenis Perez Soto, Rayniel Rufino

Drama about a Dominican baseball star that is signed to a minor league contract.

AFI DALLAS 2009 will run March 26 – April 2, 2009. Passes go on sale February 6, Tickets go on sale March 2. Passes and tickets will be made available via online (www.AFIDALLAS.com), phone (214.720.0663), and in person at the Box Office located at the AFI DALLAS locations at NorthPark Center and Victory Park.

About AFI DALLAS International Film Festival

The AFI DALLAS International Film Festival celebrates films and their impact on society, honors filmmakers and recognizes their achievements and contributions in enhancing the creative community, provides educational programs to students to develop better understanding of the role of film in today's world, and promotes the City of Dallas and its commitment to the art of filmmaking. AFI DALLAS is a presentation of the nonprofit Dallas Film Society.

About NorthPark Center

As one of the premier shopping centers in the United States, NorthPark Center (www.northparkcenter.com) proudly offers shoppers the best of the best in every category represented including the finest in luxury retail and exclusives in the Southwest. Offering an unparalleled selection of international designers set amid timeless modern architecture and a

world-class art collection, NorthPark Center has established a new standard in the United States for innovative retail destinations.

NorthPark Center is owned, managed, operated and leased by husband and wife David J. Haemisegger and Nancy A. Nasher. After a \$250 million expansion in 2006, NorthPark Center became the largest shopping center in North Texas and one of the top shopping destinations in the United States. NorthPark Center will continue to open more luxury boutiques, exclusive stores and dining options throughout 2009 and beyond, culminating in more than 235 stores and restaurants.

NorthPark Center is located at the intersection of North Central Expressway and Northwest Highway in the heart of Dallas. Stores are open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday. Department store, theatre, restaurant and spa hours vary.

About Victory Park

Victory Park is Dallas' most dynamic urban neighborhood – and one of the most significant and innovative urban developments in the United States. The neighborhood is a carefully crafted collection of upscale retail shops, distinctive dining, modern office space, dramatic residential units, the W Dallas Victory hotel and signature entertainment venues, including the American Airlines Center and House of Blues. Victory Park is a development of Hillwood, a Perot Company. For more information on Victory Park, visit www.victorypark.com.

Additional Sponsors

In addition to NorthPark Center and Victory Park, AFI DALLAS 2009 major sponsors include American Airlines, Bank of America, Barefoot Wine, Central Market, City of Dallas, Current Energy, Dallas Morning News, D Magazine, Dallas Film Commission, DART, DCVB, e-Rewards, EI Creative, Faulkner Design Group, Film Threat, Jones Day, KERA, MPS Studios, Neiman Marcus, N9NE Group, Post Asylum, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Pure Evil Music & Sound, REEL FX ENTERTAINMENT, Screen International, Sony, Studio Movie Grill, Target, Temerlin Consulting, TM Advertising, W Dallas Victory, WFAA, and WRR.

PRESS CONTACT FOR AFI DALLAS

John Wildman
Director, Press and Public Relations
AFI DALLAS Presented by NorthPark Center,
Founding Sponsor Victory Park
Tel: 323.600.3165
Tel: 214.720.0555
Fax: 214.720.0551
jwildman@AFIDALLAS.com

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