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RIIFF ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF 2011 FESTIVAL

Diverse group of international filmmakers honored with festival awards

(Providence, R.I. • Aug. 14, 2011) – **FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF)** proudly announces the award winners from its 15th annual festival, which ran **Aug. 9 to 14** at venues statewide. The winners were named and honored at **RIIFF's** annual Awards Ceremony held at the Renaissance Providence Hotel's Symphony Ballroom in downtown Providence, RI.

This year, **RIIFF** received a record 4,537 submissions from filmmakers representing more than 60 countries. After months of adjudication, **RIIFF** whittled down the talent-filled pool to just over 200 films. This year there are 18 world and 21 North American/United States premieres.

"It's simply been a sensational year for us," said **George T. Marshall**, RIIFF's Executive Director. "We had films screened from all over the world along with many of the filmmakers in attendance. This year the festival registered more than 200 filmmakers from countries across the globe, including Australia, Greenland, New Zealand and Norway."

Though **RIIFF** holds all of its award winners in high esteem, the winner of the grand prize in the Best Short category holds a special honor: he is nominated for consideration for an **Oscar® Award** by the **Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences™**. This year's winning film, **Sailcloth**, directed by **Elfar Adalsteins**, vividly and beautifully tells the tale of an elderly man who escapes from his nursing home to embark on one final journey on his beloved sailboat. **Sailcloth** was part of the package of opening night short films – a package in which **RIIFF** annually includes some of the festival's top short films.

Beyond recognizing excellence in performance and craft in the festival's films, **RIIFF** also honored actors, industry professionals, and exemplary partners with recognition awards. These included:

• **LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD – Paul Sorvino, actor**

As the Festival's most prestigious award, the Lifetime Achievement Award is given to an individual who, throughout his or her career, has demonstrated an outstanding devotion to the art form.

• **CREATIVE VISION AWARD – Federico Castelluccio, actor/director**

This award celebrates the passion of creativity within the world of cinema, recognizing outstanding directors, actors, and film talent for their contributions to the art of filmmaking.

• **CRYSTAL IMAGE AWARD – Rupert Friend, actor/director**

This award is presented to an emerging artist whose outstanding work and vision epitomizes a new voice that must be heard; the voice of a filmmaker whose talent will have a positive impact in the future.

• **GEORGE M. COHAN AMBASSADOR AWARD – Steven Feinberg**

Named after famed Providence entertainer George M. Cohan, this award honors an outstanding artist whose work, passion, and drive epitomizes a level of excellence that reflects creatively on their Rhode Island roots.

• **PRODUCERS' CIRCLE AWARDS – The Vets, PMA Industries, Quebec Government Office – Boston, Renaissance Providence Downtown Hotel**

This award is presented to members of the community who have actively worked to support and promote the mission of Flickers: Rhode Island International Film Festival.

THE COMPLETE LIST OF FESTIVAL AWARDS FOLLOWS:

BEST SHORT

GRAND: **Sailcloth**, Directed by Elfar Adalsteins, United Kingdom
First: **Going Nowhere**, Directed by Rene Frelle Peterson, Denmark
Tied with: **Henry**, Directed by Yan England, Canada
Honorable Mention: **The Telegram Man**, Directed by James F. Khehtie, Australia

BEST FEATURE:

GRAND: **As If I'm Not There**, Directed by Juanita Wilson, Ireland, Sweden, Macedonia
First: **Fort McCoy**, Directed by Kate Connor, U.S.A.
Tied With: **Inuk**, Directed by Michael Magidson, France, Greenland

BEST FEATURE DOCUMENTARY:

GRAND: **Marathon Boy**, Directed by Gemma Atwal, United Kingdom, U.S.A.
First: **The Pipe**, Directed by Ristead O'Domhnaill, Ireland
Honorable Mention: **Holly Rollers: The True Story of Card Counting Christians**, Directed by Bryan Storkel, U.S.A.

BEST DOCUMENTARY SHORT

GRAND: **Incident in New Baghdad**, Directed by James Spione, U.S.A.
First: **Sun City Picture House**, Directed by David Darg, Haiti
Honorable Mention: **Johnny and Lyman: A Life Together**, Directed by Paul Detwiler and Michael Chen, U.S.A.
Tied with: **Two Sides of the Moon: The Honor Killing of Hatun Anyur Surucu**, Directed by David Gould, Germany

BEST COMEDY SHORT

GRAND: **Tooty's Wedding**, Directed by Frederic Casella, United Kingdom
First: **Gin and Dry**, Directed by Oscar Plewes, United Kingdom
Tied with: **dik**, Directed by Christopher Stollery, Australia
Second: **Two's A Crowd**, Directed by Jim and Tom Isler, U.S.A.

BEST ANIMATION

GRAND: **The Maker**, Directed by Christopher Kezelos, Australia
First: **Fluffle**, Directed by Stephanie Franz, U.S.A.
Honorable Mention: **Hairoes**, Directed by Jesse Emerson and Gaetan Raspanti, Australia

BEST EXPERIMENTAL

Snovi, Directed by Resad Kulenovic, Herzegovina, U.S.A.

BEST DIRECTOR

GRAND: **Terry George**, *The Shore*, United Kingdom, Ireland
First: **Daniel Gillies**, *Broken Kingdom*, Colombia, U.S.A.
Honorable Mention: **Halima Ouardiri**, *Mokhtar*, Canada

BEST FEMALE ACTRESS

GRAND: **Melissa Leo**, *The Sea is All I Know*, U.S.A.
First: **Kate Hartcourt**, *Pacific Dreams*, New Zealand
Tied with: **Annabeth Gish**, *Commerce*, U.S.A.

BEST MALE ACTOR

GRAND: **Andrew Simpson**, *All That Way For Love*, Kenya, United Kingdom
First: **Michael Cuomo**, *Happy New Year*, U.S.A.
Tied with: **Ciaran Hinds**, *The Shore*, Ireland, United Kingdom

DIRECTORIAL DISCOVERY AWARD

Happy New Year, Directed by K. Lorrel Manning, U.S.A.

BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY

GRAND: **Pillow**, Directed by Gabe Mayhan, U.S.A.
First: **Little Angel**, Directed by Ginny Loane, New Zealand
Tied with: **Dark Side of the Lens**, Directed by Mickey Smith and Allan Wilson, Ireland

BEST EDITING:

GRAND: **Steve**, Edited by Tania Clarke, Directed by Rupert Friend, United Kingdom
First: **Brot [Bread]**, Edited Anne Kristina Kliem and Monika Schindler, Directed by Ahmet Tas, Germany

BEST SCREENPLAY

GRAND: **Face to Face**, Written by Michael Rymer, Australia
First: **A Wake**, Written by Penelope Buitenhuis and Krista Sutton, Canada
Honorable Mention: **Stranger Things**, Written by Eleanor Burke and Ron Eyal, U.S.A.

RISING STAR AWARD

College: **Jeremy**, Directed by Brian Faye, U.S.A.
High School: **Onion Skin**, Directed by Joseph Procopio, Canada

RIIFF INTERNATIONAL AMBASSADOR AWARD

A Balloon for Allah, Directed by Nefise Özkal Lorentzen, Norway
Presented to a filmmaker whose work fosters communication, education and cultural understanding

“HELPING HAND” INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Hand Held, Directed by Don Hahn, U.S.A.
Given annually to a film or filmmaker that inspires social change, community outreach and a better of the world in which we live

PROVIDENCE FILM FESTIVAL

GRAND: **Leh Wi Tok**, Directed by John Lavall, Sierra Leone, U.S.A.
First: **Atomic Mom**, Directed by M.T. Silvia, U.S.A.
Presented annually to films made by filmmakers from the southern New England region

RIIFF'S 15th ANNIVERSARY AWARD

The Wholly Family, Directed by Terence Vance Gilliam
Presented to a filmmaker whose work exemplifies the best of the short film genre – a category of film that has come to define RIIFF

ALTERNATIVE SPIRIT AWARD

GRAND: **The Green**, Directed by Steven Williford, U.S.A.
First: **Love Is All You Need?**, Directed by K. Rocco Shields, U.S.A.
Tied with: **Judas Kiss**, Directed by J.T. Tepnapa, U.S.A.

BEST ORIGINAL MUSICAL COMPOSITION (SCORE)

GRAND: **Jealous of the Birds**, Composition by Aleksy Igudesman and Hans Zimmer, Germany, Poland, U.S.A.
First: **Hollow**, Composition by Christopher Slaski, United Kingdom
Honorable Mention: **Crazy Beats Strong Every Time**, Composition by John Jennings Boyd, U.S.A.

KIDSEYE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL GRAND PRIZE

The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore, Directed by William Joyce, USA

VORTEX SCI-FI & FANTASY

GRAND: **Digital Antiquities**, Directed by J.P. Chan, U.S.A.
First: **Pinion**, Directed by Asuka Sylvie, Australia

FILMMAKER OF THE FUTURE AWARD

Hollow, Directed by Rob Sorrenti, United Kingdom
Presented to a filmmaker whose vision excites audiences and judges alike about the potential to produce compelling and successful films in the future

RIIFF YOUTH JURY AWARDS

BEST DOCUMENTARY

With Great Power: The Stan Lee Story, Directed by William Hess, U.S.A.

BEST FEATURE FILM

Broken Kingdom, Directed by Daniel Gillies, Colombia, U.S.A.

BEST SHORT FILM

Hollow, Directed by Rob Sorrenti, United Kingdom

HONORABLE MENTION

Judas Kiss, Directed by J.T. Tepnapa, U.S.A.

VIOLA M. MARSHALL AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARDS

MOST POPULAR

Grand Prize:

"Atomic Mom" Directed by M.T. Silvia, USA, 2010

BEST DOCUMENTARY

Grand Prize:

"Family Band: The Cowsills Story" Directed by Louise Palanker and Ian Broyles, USA, 2011

First Prize: **"Fambul Tok (Family Talk)"** Directed by Sara Terry, USA/ Sierra Leone, 2011

BEST FEATURE

Grand Prize:

"Inuk" (Le Voyage d'Inuk) Directed by Michael Magidson, France/Greenland, 2010

First Prize: **"Take Me Home"** Directed by Sam Jaeger, USA, 2011

BEST SHORT

Grand Prize:

"La Historia de Siempre (The Same Old Story)" Directed by Jose Luis Montesinos, Spain, 2009

For a full list of film synopses, actor listings and trailers, please see the **Festival Genius** application at **RIFilmFest.org**

ABOUT THE FLICKERS: RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

The **FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF)** has secured its place in the global community as the portal for the best in international independent cinema, earning the respect of domestic and foreign filmmakers, filmgoers and trend watchers. This confluence of art and commerce brought together celebrities, award-winning filmmakers, new talent and audience members in record numbers last year. Ranked as one of the top-12 festivals in the United States, **RIIFF** is one of 65 festivals worldwide that is a qualifying festival for the **Academy Awards** through its partnership with the **Academy of Motion Pictures Arts & Sciences**. For more information on the festival, please visit www.RIFilmFest.org.

For more information about this year's **FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival**, running **Aug. 9 to 14** at The Vet (formerly Veterans memorial Auditorium), please visit our website at www.RIFilmFest.org or call us at **401.861.4445**.