

PRESS RELEASE

2008 AFI DALLAS International Film Festival Presented by Target, Founding Sponsor Victory Park Announces Fifteen Titles in Official Selections

FILMS INCLUDE ONE WORLD PREMIERE AND TWO U.S. PREMIERES

Dallas, TX, January 23, 2008—AFI DALLAS 2008 International Film Festival Presented by Target, Founding Sponsor Victory Park announces fifteen films that will screen at this year's festival (March 27 – April 6) including the World Premiere of *THE LAST LULLABY*, as well as the U.S. Premieres of two music documentaries; *GLASS: A PORTRAIT OF PHILIP IN TWELVE PARTS* and *SONIC YOUTH: SLEEPING NIGHTS AWAKE*.

Jeffrey Goodman's *THE LAST LULLABY* is a noirish thriller about a former hit man whose struggle to cope with the unexpected restlessness he faces in retirement inspires him to become involved in the life of a new target in a way that could threaten his very own life. The film stars Tom Sizemore, Sasha Alexander and Randall Batinkoff.

GLASS: A PORTRAIT OF PHILIP IN TWELVE PARTS (produced in Australia) is directed by Scott Hicks (*SHINE*) and follows an eventful year in the career and personal life of distinguished composer Philip Glass as he interacts with a number of friends and collaborators, including Chuck Close, Ravi Shankar and Martin Scorsese.

SONIC YOUTH: SLEEPING NIGHTS AWAKE is culled from the footage shot by seven teen students both onstage and backstage during a Sonic Youth 4th of July concert in 2006. The film is directed by Michael Albright. A rough cut of the film screened previously at NoisePop, but the completed version will be making its official U.S. debut.

AFI DALLAS also announces two films currently playing at the Sundance Film Festival that will screen for Dallas audiences for the first time at AFI DALLAS in March and April – *TIME CRIMES (LOS CRONOCRIMENES)* and *GONZO: THE LIFE AND WORK OF DR. HUNTER S. THOMPSON*. Directed by Nacho Vigalondo, the Spanish thriller, *TIME CRIMES* is a disquieting film about a man who tries to recover his life after accidentally getting into a time machine and traveling back in time nearly an hour. *GONZO: THE LIFE AND WORK OF DR. HUNTER S. THOMPSON* is a detailed portrait of the journalist and iconoclast

whose writings challenged the establishment as his legendary exploits confounded it. GONZO is directed by Alex Gibney.

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

Additional announced films include:

BATTLE IN SEATTLE (U.S.A.)

Director: Stuart Townsend

Cast: Charlize Theron, Woody Harrelson, Ray Liotta, Michelle Rodriguez
Activists arrive in Seattle, Washington en masse to protest a meeting of the World Trade Organization. Riots and chaos ensue as demonstrators successfully stop the WTO meetings.

CIRCUS ROSAIRE (U.S.A.)

Director: Robyn Bliley

Documentary follows the story of the Rosaire family, a 9th generation family of circus performers known for their unique and respectful manner of performing with animals, as they struggle to maintain their family heritage and adapt to the modern world of entertainment.

JUMP (U.S.A.)

Director: Helen Hood Scheer

Documentary follows kids in jump roping competitions, progressing from state competitions to the Jump Rope nationals and the world championships.

THE LIFE BEFORE HER EYES (U.S.A.)

Director: Vadim Perelman

Cast: Uma Thurman, Evan Rachel Wood

Based on the best-selling novel by Laura Kasischke, the dramatic thriller is about a suburban wife and mother (played by Uma Thurman) who begins to question what on the surface is a perfect life on the anniversary of a tragic high school shooting that killed her best friend. The film also stars Evan Rachel Wood.

MONGOL (Kazakhstan)

Director: Sergei Bodrov

Film recounts the early life of Genghis Khan and the barbaric tribal struggles including his enslavement which ultimately formed the man who would go on to conquer half the world including Russia in 1206.

PUBLIC ENEMY: WELCOME TO THE TERRORDOME (U.S.A.)

Director: Robert Patton-Spruill

Documentary takes a look at the 20 year history of the influential hip hop group, Public Enemy and their impact musically, socially and politically, as well as giving rare insight into the personalities that make up the group.

STUCK (U.S.A.)

Director: Stuart Gordon

Cast: Mena Suvari, Stephen Rea

Film pits a hit & run driver with her relentlessly surviving victim in a disturbing and provocative study of the loss and gain of humanity through an unfortunate and shocking incident.

THEN SHE FOUND ME (U.S.A.)

Director: Helen Hunt

Cast: Helen Hunt, Matthew Broderick, Colin Firth, Bette Midler

Film follows a New York schoolteacher as she hits a midlife crisis when, in quick succession, her husband leaves, her adoptive mother dies and her real one, an eccentric talk show host, materializes and turns her life upside down as she begins a courtship with the father of one of her students.

THE TRACEY FRAGMENTS (Canada)

Director: Bruce McDonald

Cast: Ellen Page

Film features a startling and innovative visual design, with Ellen Page starring as a teenager and social outcast wandering the streets of Winnipeg searching for her lost younger brother.

TRIANGLE (Germany/Hong Kong/Finland)

Directors: Ringo Lam, Johnny To, Hark Tsui

Film's story is told in three 30-minute segments (by three directors), as three friends seek out the buried treasure of a mysterious stranger.

AFI DALLAS 2008 will run March 27 – April 6, 2008. Passes go on sale March 7. Passes and tickets will be made available via online (www.AFIDALLAS.com), phone (TBD), and in person at the Box Office located at the AFI DALLAS location at 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 contribution 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 non-profit Dallas Film Society.

About Target

Minneapolis-based Target serves guests at 1,591 stores in 47 states nationwide by delivering today's best retail trends at affordable prices. Target is committed to providing guests with great design through innovative products, in-store experiences and community partnerships. Whether visiting a Target store or shopping online at Target.com, guests enjoy a fun and convenient shopping experience with access to thousands of unique and highly differentiated items. Target (NYSE:TGT) gives more than \$3 million a week to its local communities through grants and special programs. Since opening its first store in 1962, Target has partnered with nonprofit organizations, guests and team members to help meet community needs.

About Victory Park

Located in the heart of Dallas, Victory Park is one of the country's most significant and innovative master-planned urban developments. Victory Park is creating a new urban environment with a carefully crafted collection of emerging and reputation retail, distinctive dining, modern office space, dramatic residential units, hotels and signature entertainment venues, including the American Airlines Center. 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 Target and Victory Park, AFI DALLAS 2007 major sponsors included American Airlines, AT&T, Bank of America, Barefoot Wine, Blockbuster, Brierley+Partners, Budweiser Select, Central Market, City of Dallas, Clear Channel Radio, Clear Channel Outdoor, Cliff Bar, Current Energy, Dallas Morning News, D Magazine, Dallas Film Commission, DART, DCVB, Deloitte, DG FastChannel, Entertainment Partners, e-Rewards, Faulkner Design Group, Flag Marketing, Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin, HDNet, Jones Day, KERA, MPS Studios, Neiman Marcus, People Newspapers, Post Asylum, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Pure Evil Music & Sound, REEL FX, Richards Partners, Screen International, Temerlin Consulting, t:m advertising, W Dallas Victory, WFAA and WRR.

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