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FLICKERS: RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL KICKS OFF ITS 18TH SEASON WITH OVER 200 FILMS

From Richard Dreyfus, Theo Bikel, Charles Dance, Jim Broadbent to Amanda Seyfried; a celebration of Newport's 375th Birthday with a look at the history of the Newport Folk Festival; live comedy with Robert Kelly, to over 60 World and United States Premieres, this year's Festival is Film-Filled Week, Hosted at Locations Across The State of Rhode Island.

ABSTRACT/CALENDAR LISTING:

On August 5, 2014, Flickers kicks-off its 18th annual **Flickers: Rhode Island International Film Festival** (RIIFF) in Providence, RI. Out of the 7,000-plus film festivals worldwide, RIIFF is widely recognized as a credentialed, industry-friendly launch pad for the work of exceptional emerging talent. This confluence of art and commerce brought together world-class celebrities, award-winning filmmakers, new talent and audience members in record numbers last year. Ranked as one of the top 10 Festivals in the United States, RIIFF is also a qualifying festival for the Short Film Academy Award and the Short Documentary Academy Award through its affiliation with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences. There are **19 film festivals worldwide** which share this distinction and RIIFF is the only festival in New England. RIIFF is truly a place where the stars align! Aside from film screenings, the Flickers team has organized a number of events to encourage filmmakers and festival attendees to widen their knowledge of filmmaking as well as explore the incredible city of Providence that RIIFF is proud to call home. For more information about the festival, please visit www.rifilmfest.org.

WHAT: 18th Annual Flickers: Rhode Island International Film Festival

WHEN: August 5-10, 2014

WHERE: Providence, Newport, Bristol, Woonsocket and Jamestown, Rhode Island

WHO: Flickers, Newport Film Society & Arts Collaborative, creator of the Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF)

HOW MUCH: Tickets are \$15 for opening night screening/\$50 screening & gala; \$10 general admission for the screenings proceeding opening night; Senior, group and student discounts offered with advance purchase.

To order call 401-861-4445 or purchase tickets at the door. Advance tickets can be purchased online at www.RIFilmFest.org.

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It has been a wild ride for us since we first met at RIFF last summer. Our film has screened at over 11 festivals across the U.S., Mexico and Canada with several more screenings scheduled before the end of the year. David and I have had the pleasure of attending festivals and screenings of THE MORNING AFTER in Palm Springs, Providence, DC, Edmonton, Los Angeles, Hollywood, and Manhattan.

Of all the festivals we have been privileged to attend, Flickers/RIFF stands out as one of the finest in our minds. The supremely high quality of the films, the incredible camaraderie of the attending filmmakers, the warmth and commitment of the festival staff and volunteers -- all these things make your festival a star on the circuit.

Now that we have had a chance to catch our breath, we just wanted to take a moment to thank you both and to thank everyone who helps make RIFF such a wonderful experience for filmmakers. We are truly honored that such a great festival believed in our film and for the recognition we received there.

*best wishes,
Mia Renaud
Producer
THE MORNING AFTER*

(PROVIDENCE/NEWPORT, RI) — On Aug. 5, 2014, Flickers will kick off its **18th Annual Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIFF)** in Providence, RI. In addition to over **240 premiere film screenings**, this year's festival will feature the return of the RI Film Forum in collaboration with the RI Film & Television Office and the URI Harrington School of Communication and Media. The Forum will be a region-wide educational workshop geared toward bringing film production to the Ocean State and spurring job creation. The Festival will also include a Film Location Walking Tour with the RI Historical Society, a Master Class on Directing Actors on Set, a public symposium on media literacy entitled "Transcending Prejudice Through Storytelling," the annual ScriptBiz Screenwriting Workshop, nightly filmmaker networking events, award ceremonies, related world film premiere events, live comedy with Robert Kelly, special film programming with The Pell Center at Salve Regina University's Story in the Public Square that celebrates the City of Newport's 375th Birthday, and a weekend "Experience Creative Providence" collaboration with Opera Providence, the RISD Museum and Waterfire, all culminating in a closing night Block Party at the Dark Lady.

More than 240 feature length, documentary and short films—from 62 countries, and 34 states across the U.S.—will be screened during the six-day Festival at locations throughout the state of Rhode Island: Providence, Newport, Woonsocket, Jamestown and Bristol. Films have been selected from a record entry base of more than 5,300 submissions. Last year, 226 filmmakers attended the Festival. This year's event already includes filmmakers who have confirmed coming in from Poland, Cuba, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, France, New Zealand, India, Australia, Mexico and Canada.

RIFF is a magnet for those who have made short films because it is a qualifying event in both the short and documentary short film categories of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. In 2013, three films that premiered at RIFF went on to receive Academy Award nominations: "The Lady in Number 6: Music Saved My Life," from Directors: Malcolm Clarke and Nicholas Reed (Reed Entertainment); "The Voorman Problem" from Director: Mark Gill and Baldwin Li, producer (Honlodge Productions); and "Feral" from Director: Daniel Sousa (Daniel A Sousa Productions). "The Lady in Number 6: Music Saved My Life," was awarded the Oscar®.

Since its creation in 1981, Flickers has become a powerful and leading force promoting independent cinema. Founded as the Newport Film Society, its first official film screening took

place in January 1983 at the Van Alen Casino Theater (now renamed "Stanford White Theatre") in Newport. Flickers evolved to include numerous year-round film-related events and production projects, and expanded its reach to locations throughout the Ocean State and New England. The Flickers: Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF) is now the largest and only Oscar®-qualifying festival in New England through its partnership with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences. With over 7,000 film festivals taking place globally, **only 19 Festivals** share RIIFF's dual credential. RIIFF boasts 33 Academy Award nominations and seven wins, making an entry into the Festival an important credential to achieve.

Flickers' mission is to discover the work of exceptional emerging talent while nurturing and enabling relationships among film directors, artists, producers, distributors, backers, and audiences. One of its major goals is to recognize artistry and innovation in filmmaking, which it achieves through the Film Festival, an event internationally recognized as an important, credentialed, industry-friendly launch pad. The Providence Business News consistently lists RIIFF as one of the "Top 30 Events in Rhode Island," while Boston Magazine has recognized it as one of the region's "Top 10 Summer Events." In 2012, the Festival welcomed 226 filmmakers and their guests and had 54 World, North American, and United States premieres selected out of 4,717 film submissions. That year, audiences surged to over 31,000 at all Flickers events. The record turnout led to the Bureau of International Information Programs at the U.S. Department of State to select RIIFF as one of the "Top 10 Festivals in the United States" the following year, as part of the department's promotional efforts to spur international tourism.

Year-round programming produced by Flickers includes the KidsEye Summer Filmmaking Camp, the RI International Horror Film Festival, the Roving Eye International Film Festival, the Jamestown Arts Center "Encore Series," Flickers' University French Film Discovery Program at NE Universities, the Annual GLBT Expo Video Lounge at the Javits Center in NYC, the 7DayPSA Competition, Oscar Experience: Providence, the Providence LGBTQ Film Festival, the Jewish Experience Program, Francofête -Francophonie: Rhode Island, and the Flickers: Rhode Island International Film Festival.

On Aug. 5 2014 Flickers will kick off its 18th annual Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF) in Providence, RI.

PLANNED FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Showcase of Japanese and Francohonie (French) films celebrating our Festival partnerships with **ShortShorts Film Festival Asia** (Japan), the **Government of Québec, Consulate General of France, Boston, swissnex Boston, Consulate General of Haiti, Boston** and **Unifrance**;
- The RI Film Forum, scheduled for Thursday, August 7th in collaboration with the **RI Film & Television Office** and the **Harrington School of Communication at URI**;
- New programming focus for the annual ScriptBiz™ Screenplay Pitch Seminar with spotlight on this year's Grand Prize Screenplay Competition winner "Growing Things," written by Jenna Sullivan and Quentin James, of Marshfield, Massachusetts. The 2014 **ScriptBiz Seminar** will be directed by Professor William Torgenson from St. John's University, New York, previous Grand Prize winner for "**Love on the Big Screen**;"
- Expanded **KidsEye™ International Film Festival** programming with four mornings of kid-friendly screenings, workshops, panels and activities;
- Showcase of films and cultural activities from the Province of Québec and **Ciné Québec Film Festival** celebrating Flickers' 20 year partnership with the **Délégation du Québec, Boston** and **Tourism Québec**;
- Expanded **LGBTQ** and **Two Spirit** screenings at statewide locations with panels, workshops and filmmaker mixers, culminating in the **Closing Night Block Party** at the Dark Lady on Saturday, August 9th in downtown Providence;
- Films from *Norway, South Africa, New Zealand, Australia, China, India, Germany, Italy,*

- *Belgium, Ireland, Lithuania, the United Kingdom—over 60 countries across the globe;*
- Select films from local and New England filmmakers take the stage with the **Providence Underground Film Festival** sidebar, featuring guest speaker panels;
- Expanded **Flickers Youth Film Jury** programming and educational programs;
- **Providence Location Walking Tour** with the RI Historical Society;

THE FILMS SCHEDULED TO PLAY RIFF 2014:

This year's **Opening Night Gala** will feature a collection of World and North American premieres of the world's finest shorts, curated from thousands of entries that came our way this year. In addition to hosting the North American Premieres of "Market Hours" and "Operation Barn Owl," the Opening Night will feature the World Premiere of "Caserta Palace Dream" featuring **Richard Dreyfus** and directed by **James McTeigue** ("V for Vendetta"), plus a new music video from our good friend, children's book author, **Sandra Boynton**.

The 2014 Opening Night line-up:

"**The Present**," directed by Jacob Frey (World Premiere)
 "**Market Hours**," directed by John Goldman (North American Premiere)
 "**August Heat**," directed by Matthew James Thomas (US Premiere)
 "**Operation Barn Owl**," directed by Satsuki Okawa (North American Premiere)
 "**Cows: A Moosic Video**," directed by Sandra Boynton (World Premiere)
 "**Caserta Palace Dream**," directed by James McTeigue (World Premiere)
 "**Showfolk**," directed by Ned McNeilage (East Coast Premiere)
 "**Sandrine**," directed by Nicholas Greinacher (North American Premiere)
 "**Je Suis Une Actrice**," directed by Benoit Lach (World Premiere)
 "**The Secret World of Foley**," directed by Daniel Jewel (East Coast Premiere)

The films screened at this year's Festival will not be short on name actors and other talent gracing the screen or working behind the camera. A sampling includes: **Charles Dance** ("Retrospective"), **Richard Dreyfus** ("Caserta Palace Dream"), **Amanda Seyfried** ("Dog Food"), **Theo Bikel** ("Journey4Artists"), **Jim Broadbent** and **Sally Hawkins** ("The Phone Call"), **Graham Shiels** ("Chasing The Past"), **Phillip Seymour Hoffman** (Executive Producer "One Armed Man"), **Dakota Blue Richards**, **Alice Lowe** and **Jason Flemyng** ("Girl Power"), **C.S. Lee** ("The Red Robin"), **Matt O'Leary** ("Time Lapse"), **Danielle Panabaker** and **George Finn** ("Time Lapse"), **Adam Hagenbuch** ("Welcome To The Building"), **Ian Brennan** and **Jayma Mays** ("Awkward Expressions of Love"), **Sally Kirkland** and **Burt Young** ("Tom in America"), **Richard Kind** ("What Cheer?"), **Elise Luthman** ("Josephine"), **Colman Domingo** ("A Long Walk"), **Keiko Agena** ("Me + Her"), **Chandra Wilson** ("Muted")

For a complete festival guide of films to be screened this year, visit www.RIFilmFest.org or <http://riff.festivalgenius.com/2014/films>

SPECIAL AWARDS & PRESENTATIONS AT RIFF 2014:

The Festival is not short on awards that recognize and honor those in the industry and arts. This year's awards will be presented throughout the week and include following:

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Theodore (Theo) Bikel, Austrian-American actor, folk singer, musician, composer and activist. He made his film debut in "*The African Queen*" (1951) and was nominated for an Academy Award for his supporting role as Sheriff Max Muller in "*The Defiant Ones*" (1958). He performs in the musical documentary, "*Journey 4 Artists*" having its World Premiere at this year's Festival.

CREATIVE VISION AWARD

Celebrating the passion of creativity within the world of cinema: The FLICKERS Rhode Island International Film Festival recognizes outstanding directors, actors, writers, film talent and those who have made significant contributions to the art of filmmaking with this semi-annual award. This year's award recipient is **Carol Patten**, Publisher, Imagine Magazine.

ROGER WILLIAMS INDEPENDENT VOICE AWARD

Presented semi-annually to an outstanding artist whose vision promotes tolerance, compassion and understanding. Named after the founder of Rhode Island, Roger Williams, who established an American tradition of religious freedom and individual liberty that was encoded in The Bill of Rights. This year's award recipient is **Eric R. Bronner**, Rhode Island Musician/Artist/Educator.

RIIFF GRAND PRIZE SCREENPLAY AWARD

Flickers annually adjudicates a Screenplay Competition concurrently with the RI Film Festival. Last year, 371 submissions were received from throughout the United States and across the globe. The Grand Prize winners were **Jenna Sullivan & Quentin James** from Marshfield, MA for their screenplay "Growing Things."

PRODUCER'S CIRCLE AWARDS

Presented to members of the community who have actively worked to support and promote the mission of Flickers. This year's winners include:

- **Julibeth Andrews & Nancy Nicholson**, Flickers' Music for a While.
- **Shawn Drywa**, Creator of the Rhode Island International Horror Film Festival
- **Jessica Wong & Keith Brown**, RIIFF KidsEye™ Summer Filmmaking Camp
- **Desi Washington**, Rhode Island Filmmaker/Artist/Mentor
- **Letitia Carter**, The Vets Foundation
- **Laura Collela**, Filmmaker/Educator/Writer/Director, Brown University and Rhode Island School of Design

RIIFF 2014 SPECIAL EVENTS:

FLICKERS: RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL: OPENING NIGHT CELEBRATION & GALA opens this year's Festival on Tuesday, Aug. 5, at 7:00 p.m. at The Providence Performing Arts Center (PPAC). Discover an unforgettably memorable selection of short films from around the world that await audiences at the gala opening night of the 18th Annual RIIFF. This year's selection promises to engage, entertain and possibly discover the next Academy Award nominee. As part of its long tradition, Flickers will celebrate the "Art of the Short Film" representing an array of genres that salute RIIFF's unique status: out of more than 7,000 film festivals world wide, the Rhode Island International Film Festival is one of only 19 qualifying Festivals with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences—the Oscars—in the narrative and documentary short categories. It is the lone Festival in New England with that distinction.

PROVIDENCE FILM LOCATION WALKING TOUR lets you discover why Providence is truly a Hollywood backlot thanks to the RI Historical Society. Learn about the history of the city and find out about some of our state's most notable and colorful characters. The goal of the tour is to provide filmmakers with an insider's view of the downcity and riverwalk area, with an eye toward interesting, unanticipated places for filming. The Providence Location Walking Tour takes place on Wednesday, Aug. 6, at 11:00 a.m. in Downtown Providence. For more information, visit www.RIFilmFest.org.

KIDSEYE™ INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL is Rhode Island's premiere showcase of cinematic work focused on young people involved with KidsEye™. Since it began 16 years ago, KidsEye™ has celebrated the most exceptional work of young video makers and has become a popular *festival-within-a festival*, featuring guest speakers, discussions, dance

parties, concerts, and a "Youth Open Screen." Those attending **KidsEye™** will be able to meet youth video makers and their mentors; see a diverse collection of youth-produced media. On Saturday, be sure to join local filmmaker for the premiere work of the students from the annual KidsEye™ Summer Filmmaking Camp

FLICKERS: KidsEye™ Summer Filmmaking Camp took place from July 7-11. This is the original five-day filmmaking camp for kids aged 8-17 presented by the Academy Award-qualifying, FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival. This year, 54 participants shoot several short films and a promotional trailer, attend workshops taught by certified educators and movie industry professionals, and learn about screenwriting, acting for the camera, directing, makeup, camera, costuming, and special effects. The event took place all day from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the University of Rhode Island, Kingston campus.

THE RHODE ISLAND FILM FORUM provides the opportunity to become involved with the stars of the Rhode Island film community on Thursday, Aug. 8, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This one-day forum will bring together leaders from the film industry in collaboration with Rhode Island decision-makers and community leaders. Additionally, discussion panels will cover the changing nature of the industry and the future of film festivals. Held in the majestic Providence Biltmore Ballroom, the discussion will highlight what's new on the technical side of filmmaking and how you can fit in to the film community.

ScriptBiz 2014 Unbound is designed to guide writers through the processes of writing and promoting their screenplays. Have a great idea for a movie script, but don't know where to begin? Or have you finished your masterpiece but have no clue what to do next? The 18th Annual Flickers: Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF) is here to help. On Friday, Aug. 8th, (9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. with film screening following) the Festival hosts its popular one-day workshop. **ScriptBiz 2014** that covers the nuts and bolts of being a screenwriter in two parts: introductory and advanced. Learn more about the creative process as well as how to effectively network with filmmakers and make a compelling pitch to promote your screenplay.

"Directing Actors on Set" to be held Wednesday, August 6, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. **Featuring** director/Professor **Jonathan Pope Evans** comes from Chapman University in Orange, California where he works closely with actors, from coaching/directing them in films *Seppure* "The Buried" and "Hoover Road" (screening at RIIFF this year) to coaching actors in art of screen acting. Evans challenges actors to develop the self, to personally connect to the moments in a scene, and to experience a very personal and profound physical awakening within the world of the character. In this workshop, Evans explores various exercises for developing characters, including substitutions and emotional triggering based in the work of Larry Moss, Ivana Chubbuck and Lee Strasberg. Whether you are a film actor looking for new tools for your process or a director looking to guide actors to create emotional and personal performances in your films, join Director/Professor Jonathan Pope Evans for an informative journey into the acting process.

Robert Kelly: Live at the Village Underground, Special World Premiere screening with comedian Robert Kelly who is also the film's director. This independent stand-up comedy film, Executive Produced by **Bobcat Goldthwait** and **Jim Serpico**, captures the indomitable nightlife and comedy club scene of New York City through Robert Kelly's raucous, savvy and hilarious one-man show. Kelly's comedy is rooted in his early days as a kid growing up in Boston. His dysfunctional family, trips in and out of juvie and his honest take on his own life and relationships make his comedy clever, abrasive and funny, yet refreshingly vulnerable. The Village Underground is one of the most exclusive comedy clubs in New York City. To be an approved stand-up at this venue means you are one of the strongest stand-ups in the world.

(In addition to *Live at the Village Underground*, Kelly will also be seen in Denis Leary's upcoming FX comedy series *Sex&Drugs&Rock&Roll*, where he plays the drummer in Leary's band *The Heathens*, a fictitious early 90s rock outfit attempting to make a comeback.)

FUTURE FILMMAKING: Transcending Prejudice Through Storytelling is a provocative forum that will provide the opportunity for networking and for international filmmakers to discuss their latest works. From Internet uploads on YouTube and Vimeo to cell phone capture and satellites, documentary filmmaking has changed the face of modern news gathering and traditional media. Technology has allowed information to flow outside of political gatekeeping, creating a global village that bridges cultures and address topics of social and political concern. Hear what filmmakers have to say about the technological future of film in the RISD Metcalf Auditorium on Saturday, Aug. 10th.

WAR AND PEACE: Two Films... Two Moving Stories, is presented as a celebration of the **City of Newport's 375th Birthday**. The Pell Center at Salve Regina University's Story in the Public Square program has partnered with the Rhode Island International Film Festival for an afternoon of cinematic storytelling featuring the documentaries, "*The War Photographers*" and "*The Newport Effect*" on **Saturday, August 9th** at the Jane Pickens Theatre, Touro Street in historic downtown Newport, R.I. Folk music and war photography may not seem to have much in common, but both are media used to publicly share the human experience. It is only fitting that these two important movies be screened together in Newport, which has witnessed war, peace and plenty of music over its long history

The afternoon begins with "*The War Photographers*," which recounts the personal experiences of award-winning photojournalists who risk their lives covering conflict in the world's most dangerous war zones, past and present, including Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia, Sudan and the Middle East.

The following film screening, "*The Newport Effect*," chronicles the history of the legendary Newport Folk Festival and its profound impact on the world of folk music and social activism. What better way to celebrate the City by the Sea's 375th Birthday! Infamous as the place where Bob Dylan 'went electric' in 1965, the reach of the festival goes far beyond that iconic moment. "*The Newport Effect*" is narrated by *Joan Armatrading* and features segment narrations by artists who have played the Newport Folk Festival — *Rosanne Cash, Michael Doucet, Steve Earle, Angelique Kidjo, Pokey LaFarge, Tom Morello, Mavis Staples* and *Lucinda Williams*.

The afternoon will include discussion and appearances by the filmmakers. SIPS director G. Wayne Miller, a writer and documentary filmmaker, will serve as moderator.

Story in the Public Square is a partnership between the Pell Center and the Providence Journal. Story in the Public Square is a leading, university-based, inclusive public program dedicated to the celebration, study and practice of storytelling in American politics and culture. A year-round program, SIPS annually bestows the Pell Center Prize for Story in the Public Square. This year's winner was Emmy-winning screenwriter, producer and actor Danny Strong, who wrote "Game Change," "Recount," "Lee Daniels' *The Butler*" and "Mockingjay," the two-part "Hunger Games" finale set for release later this year and in 2015. The 2013 winner was The Washington Post's two-time Pulitzer Prize winner Dana Priest.

EXPERIENCE CREATIVE PROVIDENCE & DARK LADY BLOCK PARTY is a special Festival collaboration linking artistic events that take place in the city of Providence on Saturday, August 9th as a way to introduce not just Festival audiences, but visiting filmmakers, to the rich culture and arts programming of the capital city. Special tickets have been arranged with

Opera Providence for its performance of "The Mikado," at the Columbus Theatre, 270 Broadway, <http://www.operaprovidence.org/>. Audiences are encouraged not only to take in premiere film work, but to savor Waterfire, enjoy the sounds of AS220's Foo Fest, take in the RISD Museum and to close the evening out at the Dark Lady, 124 Snow Street for the Festival's annual Block Party where they can mingle with visiting filmmakers.

Advance ticket sales for screenings and special events are available through the RIFF website (www.RIFilmFest.org). Student, group, and senior discounts are also available, but only in advance. To purchase tickets or obtain more information about any aspect of RIFF, call 401- 861-4445; email info@film-festival.org; or write to RIFF, 83 Park Street, Suite 1, Providence, RI 02903.

Sponsors for the 2014 Festival include: ABC6, Rhode Island Film & Television Office, Linchpin Design, Eurochannel, Edge Media, CW28, The Rhode Island Foundation: Equity Action, RISD Museum, Unifrance, Panavision, Pfizer, Dominion Diagnostics, The Rhode Island Council on the Arts (RISCA); Sony; IMDB.com, Rule Boston Camera, Délégation du Québec à Boston, Tourism Québec, PMA Industries, Cox Media, Decadent Catering, Newport Storm, Quality Rental, Just Ellen's Catering and Event Planning, Unibroue, Woodchuck Hard Cider, Consulat de France à Boston, Amtrak, Enterprise, The Vets, The Providence Tourism Council, the University of Rhode Island (URI), The Harrington School of Communications at URI; Roger Williams University, Shoot Magazine, The Dean Hotel, The Providence Biltmore, ZipCar, Uber, The Pell Center at Salve Regina University's Story in the Public Square, newenglandfilm.com, The City of Providence and the Department of Arts, Culture & Tourism, and The Providence Warwick Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

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