



*****WEB EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 2011 AT 3:00PM EST / 12:00PM PST*****

SXSW FILM ANNOUNCES 2011 FESTIVAL TEASER

JODIE FOSTER'S *THE BEAVER* AND CONAN O'BRIEN DOCUMENTARY TO WORLD PREMIERE

Austin, Texas -- January 13, 2011 – Earlier today, the South by Southwest (SXSW) Film Conference and Festival announced a handful of titles that will premiere at the 2011 event. Films announced include Jodie Foster's drama *The Beaver*, Greg Mottola's comedy-adventure *Paul* and *Conan O'Brien Can't Stop*, a documentary by Rodman Flender that follows behind-the-scenes of O'Brien's summer tour, among others. *The Beaver* will screen in this year's Centerpiece slot on Wednesday, March 16. The complete festival lineup will be announced in early February 2011. The South by Southwest Film Conference and Festival runs March 11 – 19, 2011 in Austin, Texas.

"As we continue to solidify the lineup for 2011, it's truly exciting to be able to announce this little taste of the program," said Film Conference and Festival Producer Janet Pierson. "Each of these films really showcases an artist stretching their wings in some way, whether it be a late-night talk show host taking his act on the road, an actress/filmmaker carefully and beautifully tackling a heartbreaking subject in her finest work yet, or a successful photographer trying out a new medium in a new landscape."

The 2011 SXSW Film Festival will feature:

The Beaver (World Premiere)

Director: Jodie Foster, Writer: Kyle Killen

Summit Entertainment and Participant Media Present in Association with Imagination Abu Dhabi and Anonymous Content - Two-time Academy Award® winner Jodie Foster directs and co-stars with two-time Academy Award® winner Mel Gibson in an emotional story about a man on a journey to re-discover his family and re-start his life.

Plagued by his own demons, Walter Black was once a successful toy executive and family man who now suffers from depression. No matter what he tries, Walter can't seem to get himself back on track...until a beaver hand puppet enters his life. Cast: Mel Gibson, Jodie Foster, Anton Yelchin & Jennifer Lawrence

Conan O'Brien Can't Stop (World Premiere)

Director: Rodman Flender

After a much-publicized separation with his former employers, did Conan O'Brien hit the road on a 32-City tour to connect with his fans or fill a void within himself? Filmmaker Rodman Flender followed O'Brien on his "Legally Prohibited From Being Funny on Television Tour" and returned with an intimate portrait of an artist trained in improvisation, captured at the most improvisational time of his career.

The Innkeepers (World Premiere)

Director and Writer: Ti West

Hotel clerks by day, amateur ghost hunters by night, the last two employees of the historic Yankee Pedlar Inn set out to prove that their place of business is as haunted as its reputation. Cast: Sara Paxton, Pat Healy, Kelly McGillis

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It's About You (World Premiere)

Directors: Kurt & Ian Markus

First-time filmmakers, photographer Kurt Markus and his son, Ian, document John Mellencamp's summer 2009 tour across America, and the recording of his new album, *No Better Than This*. This is a raw and personal film, celebrating the visual beauty and power of Super8 film and the human voice.

Paul (North American Premiere)

Director: Greg Mottola, Writers: Simon Pegg & Nick Frost

Simon Pegg and Nick Frost (*Hot Fuzz*, *Shaun of the Dead*) reunite for Universal Pictures' comedy-adventure *Paul* as two sci-fi geeks whose pilgrimage takes them to America's UFO heartland. While there, they accidentally meet an alien named Paul (voiced by Seth Rogen) who brings them on an insane road trip that alters their universe forever. Cast: Simon Pegg, Nick Frost, Jason Bateman, Kristen Wiig, Bill Hader, Blythe Danner, John Carroll Lynch, with Sigourney Weaver and Seth Rogen as Paul.

Square Grouper (World Premiere)

Director: Billy Corben

A colorful portrait of Miami's pot smuggling scene of the 1970s, populated with redneck pirates, a ganja-smoking church, and the longest serving marijuana prisoner in American history.

These films join the previously announced 2011 Opening Night Film *Source Code*, directed by Duncan Jones and starring Jake Gyllenhaal, Vera Farmiga and Michelle Monaghan. The complete festival lineup will be announced in early February 2011. In addition to nine full days of film screenings, SXSW Film will ultimately feature over 80 sessions of panels and workshops in the Conference. For details on the confirmed sessions, selected from proposals submitted via the SXSW PanelPicker™ interface, visit www.sxsw.com/film/talks. For more information on the SXSW PanelPicker™, visit <http://panelpicker.sxsw.com>. The complete list of panels will be announced closer to the event.

Register now for unparalleled access to films, panels, the SXSW Trade Show and more, and gain access to the most conveniently located hotels. Register by January 14 and save up to 20% off the walk-up rate. Badges are available at www.sxsw.com/attend.

About South by Southwest Film Conference & Festival

The SXSW Film Conference and Festival is a uniquely creative environment featuring the dynamic convergence of talent, smart audiences and industry heavyweights. A hotbed of discovery and interactivity, the event offers invaluable networking opportunities and immersion into the art and business of the rapidly evolving world of independent film.

The Film Conference buzzes as world-class speakers, creative minds, and notable mentors tackle the latest filmmaking trends amidst the unmatched social atmosphere of the SXSW experience. Simultaneously, the internationally acclaimed, nine-day Festival celebrates raw innovation and emerging talent, featuring a truly diverse program that includes provocative documentaries, subversive comedies, DIY narratives, genre standouts and more. For more information, visit www.sxsw.com/film.

2011 Festival Sponsors

The SXSW Film Conference and Festival is sponsored by Miller Lite, Chevrolet, AOL, IFC, PepsiMax, Brisk, Freecreditscore.com, Monster Energy and The Austin Chronicle.

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Press Credentials

We are now accepting applications for 2011 SXSW Press Credentials. Apply by Wednesday, February 9, 2011 at www.sxsw.com/press/credentials. Walk-up requests will not be granted.

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