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Chapman Showcases Student Films at the Cannes Film Festival

Chapman University's Dodge College of Film and Media Arts will premiere its first Student Film Showcase in the Cannes Film Market

ORANGE, Calif., May 5, 2005 - Chapman University's Lawrence and Kristina Dodge College of Film and Media Arts will premiere its first Student Film Showcase of award winning and festival-favorite student films at the Cannes Film Market during the 2005 Cannes Film Festival.

The first showcase will be May 14 at 3 p.m. in the Short Film Corner and will be followed by a reception at 5 p.m., also in the Short Film Corner. The second showcase will be on May 15 at 2 p.m. in the Bory Theatre of the Palais.

This is a significant step for Chapman, says Dodge College Dean Bob Bassett. Being able to screen our student films at the world's most important film festival will help put us on the map internationally. We are grateful to David and Sandy Stone of Newport Beach for their sponsorship of the Chapman Showcase.

All seven students will be traveling to Cannes in hopes of networking with industry professionals in attendance.

This is the thrill of a lifetime, says David May, a senior writing and directing major from Colorado. It is every film student's dream to go to Cannes. To be able to screen my film there is a tremendous opportunity.

The seven student films selected for the Chapman Showcase are:

Fetch, written and directed by senior David May.

Filmed on location on a frozen lake in Colorado, Fetch follows the comedic antics of a father, son, and family dog on an ice fishing trip. Fetch has screened at dozens of other festivals including the Miami Film Festival, the Bahamas Film Festival, the Jackson Hole Film Festival, the Asheville Film Festival, Hatch Fest, the Whistler Film Festival and the Los Angeles Short Film Festival and was awarded the Special Jury Award at the San Luis Obispo Film Festival.

Flowers of the Madman, written and directed by Jason Harrington, M.F.A., Film Production, 2004.

Flowers of the Madman is portrayed by the insanities of a man who has conversations with a garden of obnoxious flowers who taunt him about his past. "Flowers of the Madman" will have its world premiere in Cannes.

Hearts as One, written and directed by Steve Suh, B.F.A., Film Production, 2002.

This bittersweet love story deals with an elderly couple enduring the effects of Alzheimer's. Hearts as One was the first Chapman film to screen at the Telluride Film Festival last fall; it also

won the Crystal Heart Award at the Heartland Film Festival. This film has screened at the Los Angeles Short Film Festival, the Newport Beach Film Festival and the Palm Beach Film Festival.

The Lost Art, written and directed by Scott Peters, B.A., Screenwriting, 2004.

The Lost Art is a sentimental black and white comedy about a barber who loses his last customer to the electric razor. The Lost Art has enjoyed international film festival success as well as screening at the Austin Film Festival, the Miami Film Festival, the Newport Beach Film Festival, and the Los Angeles Short Film Festival. It was named Best Short Film at the UCLA Short Takes Festival last spring.

Look Away, written and directed by Zach Goode, a third year graduate student who will be receiving his M.F.A. in Film Production with an emphasis in writing and directing this May. A pregnant runaway finds sanctuary at the house of an elderly midwife in this psychological thriller. Look Away has screened at several festivals including the Cleveland Film Festival, the Marco Island Film Festival, the Newport Beach Film Festival and the Los Angeles Short Film Festival.

Love Thy Neighbor, written and directed by Stacey Kattman, a third year graduate student who will be receiving her M.F.A. in Film Production with an emphasis in writing and directing this May.

A young woman struggles to recover from a sudden break up with her next-door neighbor who has already moved on to another relationship in this homage to the romantic comedy genre. Winner of the Grand Prize from the Director's Guild of America in the Women's Category of the DGA Student Filmmaker Awards, Love Thy Neighbor was also chosen by Kodak to screen in its Award Winning Student Filmmaker Showcase at Cannes. The film has screened at film festivals including the Sedona Film Festival, the Los Angeles Short Film Festival, the Newport Beach Film Festival, Worldfest Houston and a special Valentine's Day event in Colorado, Reel Romance in the Rockies.

Ride, written and directed by Ryan Parrott, B.F.A., writing and directing, 2003.

This suspense-thriller follows the tense journey of a young man trapped in the back seat of a police car with a killer behind the wheel. Ride was awarded the Best Story at the Newport Beach Film Festival last year and has also screened at the Santa Cruz Film Festival, the Santa Fe Film Festival, the WT Film Festival in Norway, the Sehsuecht Film Festival in Germany and the Tel Aviv Student Film Festival in Israel.

The Dodge College of Film and Media Arts is comprised of the School of Film and Television, which offers undergraduate degrees in film and television production, screenwriting, public relations and advertising, film studies and television and broadcast journalism the Conservatory of Motion Pictures, which offers graduate degrees in film production, film and television producing, screenwriting, and film studies; and the Institute for the Study of Media and the Public Interest. The Dodge College will open the new Marion Knott Studios, a \$40-million facility that will include sound stages and stages and a 500-seat theater with digital cinema and 35mm projection in May 2006. Future plans include a backlot and a live-learn filmmakers village.