

NY FILM FESTIVAL Guide Inside

of films for the 13th Annual New Independent Film & Video Festival

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w. 8th & 9th Ave.)



Actor Reed Clare on location in Queens' Alley Pond Park shooting his 22-minute action epic "Kingdom Come."

Short films: industry calling card of choice

Filmmakers tackle short subjects to achieve long-term goals

By Christopher Zara

Short films have long been the industry calling card of choice for independent filmmakers looking to boost their careers to the next level. For young artists who lack the resources to produce a big-budget feature, making a

stylish short can be a relatively low-cost means of gaining much-needed exposure. The filmmaking community, meanwhile, abounds with stories of unknowns who burst onto the scene with a short film and subsequently find mainstream

Continued on page 6

Digital cinema may finally be catching

2005 was a banner year as the number of digital screens skyrocketed

The number of digital cinemas rose sharply throughout the world in 2005, fueled by an agreement of technical specs drawn up by Hollywood studios

masses. Last year, the UK Film Council rolled out its 240-screen Digital Screen Network amid much anticipation. Ireland echoed the pro-digital sentiments of its neighbor with a project to equip all 515 of its existing theaters with digital capabilities. The trend was mirrored in the US, where the

Casting/Auditions

★ NEW THE SIXTIES PROJECT

May 5, 9:30AM sharp (men), 2PM sharp (women), Chelsea Studios, 151 W 26th St (6th Ave).

Goodspeed Opera House is casting The Sixties Project. Richard Maltby Jr., dir.; Janet Brenner, conception-writer; Lisa Schriver, choreo.; Mungioni Theatricals, Inc., casting; various composers & lyricists. \$8350/wk. Rehearses and performs July 18-Sept. 3 at Goodspeed Opera House, East Haddam, CT. Prepare one 1960s pop song. You may or may not be asked to present one additional 1960s pop song. Bring sheet music. An accompanist will be provided. Seeking - Young Pop Rock Singers: to play 20s, male and female, African-American or Caucasian, able to move well. Note: performers must be available for all rehearsal and performance dates. If you are unable to attend this call, but would still like to be considered for this project, send pix & résumés immediately to The Sixties Project, c/o Mungioni Theatricals, Inc., 207 W. 25th St., 6th fl., NYC 10001.

★ NEW STAND BY YOUR MAN

May 8, 10AM-1PM and May 09, 10AM-12PM, Nola Studios, 250 W 54th St, 10th Fl.,

Circa 21 Dinner Playhouse in Rock Island, IL is holding auditions for *Stand By Your Man, the Tammy Wynette Musical*, directed by Michael Licata. \$275-\$350, plus paid rehearsal, housing, meals, and health

club membership
tion dates (in
Sept. 7-Nov. 4
Wynette: mid
actor-country si
& physical rese
C#-low E bel
Jones: strong a
and physical re
plays guitar; W
Tammy's daugh
strong country
country music
seeking drums
bass, fiddle, and
all the men in T
the onstage ban
dpjh@circa21.com

★ NEW TUBES

Sibling Film
Delusion, a 16m
Stan who's exp
distracting hall
cally and dra
work and his
Hagerman, dir.
Seeking - Stan
intending, abse
ally witty, figh
together, LEA
30s, Stan's girl
desirable, frust
overcome it bu
Auditions will
beginning mid
pix & résumés
Lexington Ave.
email to sibilin
No pay, but vi
meals provided

Con



4 by the end of 2005, up
2004. Much of that increase
venture between Disney and
igital proponents, however,
ation isn't coming fast
ularly in New York City
a feels noticeably absent.
change if local theater
bert has his way. Kolbert,
years has owned and ope-
ucers' Club Theatres in
attan, has set his sights on
t the west end of 42nd St
es to create a mixed-use
th stage and screen. The
approximately 25 Off-

Broadway theaters that can be converted
into digital cinemas. "This would be a great
opportunity for digital filmmakers who
don't have a place to show their films."
Kolbert said. "Film festivals are great, but
they're temporary. This would be year-
round."

While some industry analysts point to
the rise of d-cinema as a sign that the days
of traditional film prints are numbered,
others contend that there will always be
room for both mediums. "It's like oils
versus acrylics," said filmmaker Gregg
Lachow, a 22-year veteran in the film
industry who now runs a digitally-
equipped studio in Seattle. "Plenty of
artists will never stop using film."

example, was even taken to college when
he made the 8-minute cult hit "George Lucas in
Love," which tells the story of a lovelorn
Lucas struggling to write "Star Wars." The
film won several festival awards, and the
attention landed Nussbaum a gig to direct
the tween comedy "Sleepover" for MGM.

Reed Clare, a local actor, writer and film
producer who hails from Calgary, Alberta,
hopes to find similar success after the
completion of his film "Kingdom Come,"
an ambitious 22-minute short currently
being shot in New York City. The DV film,
in which Clare plays a 1st century warrior
who reflects on the greatest battle of his
life, is being produced in the vein of grand
"Gladiator"-style epics — complete with
professional fight choreographers, lavish

crew even took advantage
record-setting blizzard thi
shooting scenes in a snow-
Park.) Clare, along with the
tors Samuel Crow and Rich
large scale and professio
"Kingdom Come" will dr
their abilities as filmmaker
the door to future projects
use this film as our creden
"Serious art is born out of
we want to prove that we'r

While Clare's ultimate
larger projects, he also lo
"calling card" aspect of
marketing prospects. He'
arrangements to target ma
Sundance, Toronto and Th
ally, he cites the rise of inte
like iFilm and Triggerstreet,
bution possibilities that d
years ago. Additionally, r
theaters like IFC Center K
genre by screening sho
features. Such prospects ar
Clare and his collaborator
"Kingdom Come's" \$26,
arduous development pr
culmination of a lot of hard
verance," Clare said. "It's
took us years to realize."

Costs Raised to \$60M: Filmmakers who shoot in
can breathe a sigh of relief thanks to the recent
for the state's popular tax incentive program,
raised from \$25 million to \$60 million a year
The program, which was created to attract film-
York from cheaper locations like Canada, offers a
ndable tax credit to producers who shoot in loca-
ut the city and state. The credit has been a boon to
omy, generating millions of dollars and countless

The Promising Fourteen: Administrators at the Sundance
Institute have chosen fourteen projects to develop through orga-
nization's much-coveted Director's and Screenwriter's Labs this
coming June. The projects, which were submitted by writers and
directors from eight countries, will be developed under the guid-
ance of various industry advisors including Stanley Tucci and
InDigEnt cofounder Gary Winick. Among the most notable
works being developed this time around is "Zion and His
Brother," by Israeli writer/director Eran Merav, who made a
splash with his student short film "Underdog" at the Tribeca Film
Festival in 2003. Visit www.sundanceinstitute.org for more info.

SIDE INK

By John Rowell

NET

Sam Rapp is on
Winter Passing,
and directed,
February, and he
his next film,
d on his Off-
Now he's set to
Off-Broadway
new play by
enham entitled
begins perfor-
y 10 at Rattle-
ights Theatre.
look at a man
has been raped
; as he fights to
fragile relation-
akes a desperate
ver her secret
cludes Daniel
an Jacobs and
onnell; perfor-
June 18. For
12-868-4444.

takes a look at her own life in show
business so far—that would be the tale
of a small town girl making it in the big
city, with Mom to thank, of course-- to
the Laurie Beechman Theatre on 42nd



Harold Clurman Festival of The
Arts at the Stella Adler School

Street in her show *Look Ma...No Ears*,
which Ms. Alley co-authored with
Stephen Winer (music and lyrics by Bob
Stein) and which opens May 6 and
plays through June 6. For the record,
Ms. Alley no longer hangs out with
Justin, Britney and Christina. Sing out,
Lindsey! Smile, baby! "M-O-U-S-E..."

AND SPEAKING OF BROADWAY

musical theater stars, and now
Patti LuPone, who is currently
wowing 'em as Mrs. Lovett in the
smash revival of *Sweeney Todd*,
has just released, in my humble
opinion, the best album of her
career. Ms. LuPone's *The Lady
With The Torch* finds the big-
voiced diva sampling famous
torch songs and making them all
her own: such celebrated songs as
"The Man I Love" and "Ill Wind"
get new, dramatic renditions and
she turns June Christy's jazz
classic "Something Cool" into a
three-act tour de force of acting
and singing. *The Lady With The
Torch* is available now from
Ghostlight Records (a division of
Sh-K-Boom Records). Don't
miss it.

TRUTH IS FUNNIER THAN FICTION

...especially when Our President
says things like "It's in our country's
interests to find those who would
do harm to us and get them out of
harm's way." (George W. Bush,
Washington, DC, April 28, 2005.)
And the political comedy show
Laughing Liberally, which "saves
democracy one laugh at a time"
through live performances, video

wouldn't we? Or has that already
happened??!! For more
info: www.laughingliberally.com.

AROUND TOWN

The Stella Adler Studio of
Acting will present the inaugural
Harold Clurman Festival of the
Arts, which features readings,
music, panel discussions and
performances from such theater
luminaries as Elaine Stritch, Zoe
Caldwell, Lois Smith, Roy
Scheider, John Guare, Horton
Foote and Marian Seldes from
May 5-May 8 at the Adler Studio.
For more info, call 212-689-
0087....Cosmic Breez Produc-
tions presents Alex De Witt's new
comedy *Prime Time*, in which
class, race and pop culture collide
in a satirical view of the 2-dimen-
sional stereotypical world fed to
America through mass media;
Jack Mulcahy, star of the film *The
Brothers McMullen*, stars.
Performances begin May 5 at The
Lion Theater. www.primetimeplay.org.

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THE ANS

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The New Mickey
know, the one back