

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RIVERRUN ANNOUNCES 2011 AWARD WINNERS

13th Annual Festival Honors First Recipient of the Peter Brunette Award

WINSTON-SALEM, North Carolina – The RiverRun International Film Festival honored its 2011 Jury and Audience Award winners last night at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. Prior to the screening of the Festival’s closing night film, *Potiche*, RiverRun gave 22 awards to outstanding features and shorts.

“We are extremely proud of the shorts and features we presented to the Triad this year,” said RiverRun Executive Director Andrew Rodgers. “The positive reactions we’ve received from audiences are evidence of the high quality of our selections. With every Festival, we try to find even better films than the year before, and I think that we’ve succeeded in 2011. We’ve also made it difficult for our jurors to select just one outstanding work to honor in each category.”

Apichatpong Weerasethakul was honored with the first ever Peter Brunette Award for Best Director for *Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives*. Before the presentation of the award, Richard Schneider, Brunette’s close friend and colleague, discussed Brunette’s love of film and RiverRun.

“[Peter] grew to love Winston-Salem and the film community here,” said Schneider during the ceremony. “He especially loved the fact that a relatively new and growing film festival, the RiverRun International Film Festival, had opened up right in his backyard, so to speak, a few years earlier. As many of you who knew Peter know, he regularly traveled the world to go to film festivals, so he especially admired and supported the ones he could reach just by getting in his car and driving for ten minutes.”

Along with the Peter Brunette Award, the Narrative Features jury also honored *BAL (Honey)* with Best Narrative Feature. *Armadillo* won Best Documentary Feature. *Crab Trap* won a special prize for Best Ensemble Cast.

2011 audiences chose to honor *Home For Christmas* with Best Narrative Feature and *Kinshasa Symphony* with Best Documentary Feature. Both awards were presented by Kilpatrick, Townsend & Stockton LLP. *to.get.her* took home the first ever Altered States Audience Award for Best American Indie. The awards are listed in full below.

2011 AUDIENCE AND JURY AWARDS

AUDIENCE AWARDS

KILPATRICK TOWNSEND & STOCKTON LLP AWARD FOR BEST NARRATIVE FEATURE

Home For Christmas, dir. Bent Hamer

Previous Winner: *Letters to Father Jacob*, dir. Klaus Haro

KILPATRICK TOWNSEND & STOCKTON LLP AWARD FOR BEST DOCUMENTARY FEATURE

Kinshasa Symphony, dir. Claus Wischmann and Martin Baer

Previous Winner: *The Topp Twins: Untouchable Girls*, dir. Leanne Pooley

ALTERED STATES AWARD FOR BEST AMERICAN INDIE

to.get.her, dir. Erica Dunton

NARRATIVE FEATURE

BEST NARRATIVE FEATURE

BAL (Honey), dir. Semih Kaplanoglu

Previous Winner: *Katalin Varga*, dir. Peter Strickland

PETER BRUNETTE AWARD FOR BEST DIRECTOR

Apichatpong Weerasethakul (Joe), *Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives*

Previous Winner: Giorgos Lanthimos, *Dogtooth*

BEST ACTOR

Mathieu Amalric, *On Tour*

BEST ACTRESS

Djeneba Kone, *A Screaming Man*

BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY

Baris Ozbicer, *BAL (Honey)*

SPECIAL JURY PRIZE FOR BEST ENSEMBLE CAST

Crab Trap

DOCUMENTARY FEATURE

BEST DOCUMENTARY FEATURE

Armadillo, dir. Janus Metz

Previous Winner: *Last Train Home*, dir. Lixin Fan

BEST DIRECTOR

Nicolas Philibert, *Nenette*

Previous Winner: Susan Gluth, *Soap and Water*

BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY

Naomi Kawase, *Genpin*

NARRATIVE SHORT

BEST NARRATIVE SHORT

The Award (El Premio), dir. Leon Siminiani

HONORABLE MENTION

You Too (Na Wewe), dir. Ivan Goldschmidt

DOCUMENTARY SHORT

BEST DOCUMENTARY SHORT

Surpriseville, dir. Tim Travers Hawkins

HONORABLE MENTION

Bathing Micky (Micky Bader), dir. Frida Kempff

HONORABLE MENTION

Mr. Hypnotism, dir. Bradley Beesley

ANIMATED SHORT

BEST ANIMATED SHORT

The Eagleman Stag, dir. Mike Please

HONORABLE MENTION FOR ARTISTIC TECHNIQUE

Madagascar, A Journey Diary (Madagascar, Carnet de Voyage), dir. Bastien Dubois

STUDENT SHORT

BEST STUDENT SHORT

The Eagleman Stag, dir. Mike Please

BEST STUDENT SHORT– HONORABLE MENTION

Flip, dir. Jill Hackett

BEST STUDENT SHORT– HONORABLE MENTION

Traumdeutung, dir. Lauri Warsta

ABOUT RIVERRUN: The RiverRun International Film Festival is a non-profit cultural organization dedicated to the role of cinema as a conduit of powerful ideas and diverse viewpoints. Founded in 1998, RiverRun is a competitive event that annually showcases new films from both established and emerging filmmakers around the world. Each spring, RiverRun screens new narrative, documentary, short, student and animated films, offering both audience and jury prizes in competition categories.

SPONSORS: The sponsors of the 2011 RiverRun International Film Festival help sustain the organization's mission to foster a greater appreciation of cinema and a deeper understanding of the many people, cultures and perspectives of our world through regular interaction with great films and filmmakers. Festival sponsors includes: Title Sponsors – Reynolds American and The Arts Council of Winston-Salem; Presenting Sponsors – City of Winston-Salem, the Millennium Fund, the Winston Salem Foundation and University of North Carolina School of the Arts; Marquee Sponsors – BB&T, Flow Automotive, Hanesbrands Inc., Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP, a/perture and ShapiroWalker Design.