LIVE ACTION

SHORTS HD PRESENTS

THE OSCAR® NOMINATED SHORT FILMS 2013

LIVE ACTION | ANIMATION | DOCUMENTARY

SPONSORED BY

"OSCAR®" AND "ACADEMY AWARDS®" ARE REGISTERED TRADEMARKS OF THE ACADEMY OF MOTION PICTURE ARTS AND SCIENCES, AND USED WITH PERMISSION.

ASAD | SOUTH AFRICA/USA/18MINS

Director: Bryan Buckley
Producer: Mino Jarjoura
Executive Producers: Kevin Byrne, Hank Perlman
Associate Producer: Matt Lefebvre

Synopsis: Set in a war-torn fishing village in Somalia, an all-Somali, refugee cast brings to life this coming of age fable of a Somali boy who is faced with falling into the pirate life, or rising above to choose the path of an honest fishing man.

Director's Biography: Bryan Buckley, a veteran commercial director and co-owner of Hungry Man Productions, has been directing since the mid-90s. Over the last decade he has directed more than 40 Super Bowl commercials and was dubbed *King of the Super Bow*l by the New York Times. Many pieces of Buckley's work have been inducted into the Museum Of Modern Art's permanent collection and he is an esteemed recipient of the DGA award, Emmy's and many Cannes Lions.

Awards:
TriBeCa FIlm Festival - Jury Prize Best Narrative Short
Rhode Island International FIlm Festival - Grand Prize Best Short
Austin FIlm Festival - Jury Prize Best Narrative Short & Audience Award Best Short
Los Angeles Film Festival - Audience Award Best Short
Mill Valley Film Festival - BAFTA/LA Best Short Film
Traverse City FIlm Festival - Special Jury Prize (Michael Moore's Festival)
New Orleans Film Festival - Jury Prize Best Narrative Short
HollyShorts Film Festival - Best Short Film
Starz Denver Film Festival - Starz People Choice Award Best Short Film
San Jose International Short Film Festival - Best of Fest
One Lens Film Festival - 1st Place Short Film & Social Justice Award

Festivals/Screenings:
TriBeCa Film Festival
Seattle International Film Festival
Los Angeles Film Festival
Palm Springs International ShortFest
Traverse City Film Festival
Rhode Island International Film Festival
HollyShorts Film Festival
One Lens Film Festival
Montreal World Film Festival
Telluride Film Festival
1 Reel Film Festival
Atlantic Film Festival
Raindance Film Festival
Hamptons International Film Festival
Mill Valley Film Festival
New Orleans Film Festival
Austin Film Festival
Ellensburg Film Festival
San Jose International Short Film Festival
Foyle Film Festival
Starz Denver Film Festival
Evolution Film Festival
Sante Fe Film Festival
Ashbury Shorts Film Concert
Irvine Film Festival
Boulder International Film Festival
Mainly British Film Festival
Sedona Film Festival
San Diego Film Society
Portland International Film Festival
Florida Film Festival

BUZKASHI BOYS

AFGHANISTAN/USA/28MINS

Director: Sam French
Producer: Ariel Nasr

Synopsis: Set against the dramatic landscape of contemporary Afghanistan and the National sport of Buzkashi - a brutal game of horse polo played with a dead goat - *Buzkashi Boys* tells the coming of age story of two best friends, a charismatic street urchin and a defiant blacksmith's son, who struggle to realize their dreams as they make their way to manhood in one of the most war-torn countries on Earth. Shot on location in Kabul city by an alliance of Afghan and international film makers, *Buzkashi Boys* is a look at the life that continues beyond the headlines of war in Afghanistan.

Director's Biography: A founding director of Development Pictures in Kabul, Afghanistan, Sam French is an award-winning filmmaker whose work has appeared on the BBC, Al Jazeera, National Geographic, HBO, and other broadcast outlets. Sam directed *Buzkashi Boys*, one of the first narrative fiction films to be shot entirely on location in Kabul.

Awards:
MIFF Awards nomination
Crystal Heart Award, Heartland Film Festival
Best Cinematography, UK Film Festival
Best Short, Savannah Film Festival
Best Cinematography Rhode Island Film Festival
Best Drama, LA Shorts Fest
Best of Festival, Raindance

Festivals/Screenings:
Nashville Film Festival
Beijing International Film Festival
Big Island Film Festival
LA Shorts Fest
Evolution International Film Festival
Palm Springs International Short Fest
Heartland Film Festival
Flickers: Rhode Island International Film Festival
Montreal World Film Festival
Raindance Film Festival
Santa Fe Independent Film Festival
Washington West Film Festival
Santa Fe Film Festival
UK Film Festival
Savannah Film Festival
Irvine International Film Festival
Austin Film Festival

CURFEW | USA/19MINS

Director: Shawn Christensen
Producers: Damon Russell, Mara Kassin, Andrew Napier

Synopsis: At the lowest point of his life, Richie gets a call from his estranged sister, asking him to look after his nine-year old niece, Sophia, for the evening.

Director's Biography: Shawn Christensen graduated from Pratt Institute with a BFA in Illustration and Graphic Design. After graduating, he formed indie rock band *Stellastarr** and, while on tour, wrote and sold many screenplays, including *Sidney Hall* (Scott Free Productions) and *Karma Coalition* (Warner Bros.). His short film *Brink*, was an Official Selection of the 2011 Tribeca Film Festival and won "Best Festival Film of the Year" by ShortOfTheWeek.com. His latest short film, *Curfew*, has won over 40 awards in Film Festivals around the world and is currently nominated for Best Live Action Short Film for the 85th Academy Awards.

Awards:
Best Short Film, Stockholm International Film Festival
Best Narrative Short Film, Nashville Film Festival
Best Short Narrative, Woodstock Film Festival
Best Live Action Short Film, Cleveland International Film Festival
Audience Award (International), Clermont-Ferrand Short Film Festival
Best Actor and Audience Award (International), Brussels Short Film Festival
Grand Jury Prize and Audience Award, Ozu International Film Festival
Best Actor, Silver Medal and Audience Award, 24FPS International Short Film Festival
Audience Award (International), Short Shorts Film Festival
Best Young Actress and Audience Award, Sapporo Short Film Festival
Best International Short Film, Granada International Film Festival
Best Director, Best Actor and Grand Jury Prize, Seattle Shorts Film Festival
Audience Award, 15 Short Film Festival
Youth Jury Award, Concorto Film Festival
Best International Short Film, La Boca Del Lobo Int'l Film Festival
Can-Am People's Choice Award, Windsor International Film Festival
Best Narrative Short Film, Tacoma Film Festival
Christopher Reeve Audience Award, Williamstown Film Festival
Creativity Prize, Saguenay International Short Film Festival
Best Short Film, Abitibi-Temiscamingue Int'l Film Festival
Narrative Short (Second Prize), Athens Int'l Film and Video Festival
Special Jury Commendation, Port Townsend Film Festival
Best Selection (International), Kaohsiung Film Festival
Audience Award, Sequence Short Film Festival
Academy Award Nominee (Live Action Short Film), 85th Academy Awards Oscars.org
Best Short Screenplay, Young Cinephiles Award, Jean Prevost High School Award and Audience Award, Du Grain a Demoudre Film Festival
Best Screenplay, Grand Jury Prize (International), Youth Jury Prize (International) and Audience Award, Soria International Short Film Festival

Festivals/Screenings:
Tribeca Film Festival
New York Film Festival
BFI London Film Festival
Krakow Film festival
Moscow International Film Festival
LA Shorts Fest
Florida Film Festival
USA Film Festival
Flickerfest (2013)
Mecal International Film Festival
IFF Art Film Festival
Tabor Film Festival
Perceides International Film Festival
Athens International Film Festival
Calgary International Film Festival
Vermont International Film Festival
Rehoboth Independent Film Festival
Images En Vues Festival

LIVE ACTION | ANIMATION | DOCUMENTARY

magnolia pictures | Available on iTunes | DIRECTV | at&t | SHORTS HD™

DEATH OF A SHADOW (DOOD VAN EEN SCHADUW)

BELGIUM/FRANCE/20MINS

Director: Tom Van Avermaet
Producer: Ellen De Waele

Synopsis: Soldier Nathan died during World War I. A strange collector imprisoned his shadow and gave him a new chance: a second life against 10,000 captured shadows. It is love that guides him, as his purpose is to meet Sarah again, the woman he fell in love with before he died. But then he discovers that she's already in love with someone else, jealousy clouds his mind and pushes him towards a bitter decision, not without consequences.

Director's Biography: Born on the 22th of July 1982, Tom Van Avermaet has always had one specific goal in his life, namely that of being a storyteller. Fascinated by the celluloid dreamscape that cinema provided, Tom quickly decided that the best way to fulfil that lofty goal, was by picking up the cinematic paintbrush himself. Whilst enrolled in his last year of film school at the RITS in Belgium, he completed his first short film *DREAMTIME - Droomtijd* (2006), with which he graduated with honours. The film went on to complete a successful national & international festival run with over 60 festival selections and numerous awards (among which a nomination for the Mélies D'or for best European fantastic Short Film). Starring in his first professional short film *DEATH OF A SHADOW* (2012) are Matthias Schoenaerts (*Bullhead, Rust & Bone*), Laura Verlinden, Peter Van Den Eede and Benjamin Ramon. Influenced by the great 'surrealists' of the international world of cinema (Guillermo Del Toro, Jean-Pierre Jeunet, Terry Gilliam, Tim Burton, Stanley Kubrick, Raoul Servais…) and inspired by the mythology and mystery of fantasy tales and comic books, Tom hopes to bring his passion for the fantastic and the imaginative to life with future projects, be they commercials, music videos, short or long narrative fiction.
In production with Mollywood, Perspective Films, Digital Graphics and distributed by Premium Films.

Awards:
Best Of The Fest - 16th L.A. Shortsfest
Best European Short/EFA Award - 57th Seminci - Valladolid International Film Festival
Audience Award - 3rd Samain Du Cinéma Fantastique
Audience Award For Best Flemish Short Film - 18th International Short Film Festival Leuven18th Jury
Award For Best Flemish Short Film - International Short Film Festival Leuven
Best Narrative Short - 13th Fargo Film Festival

Festivals/Screenings:
20th Le Court En Dit Long (France)
16th L.A. Shortsfest (USA)
32nd Nederlands Film Festival (Netherlands)
39th Ghent International Film Festival (Belgium)
57th Seminci - Valladolid International Film Festival (Spain)
3rd Samain Du Cinéma Fantastique (France)
21st St. Louis International Film Festival (USA)
13th Sleepwalkers Student & Short Film Festival (Black Night) (Estonia)
2nd Paris International Fantastic Film Festival (France)
33rd Festival Du Film Court De Villeurbanne (France)
13th International Izmir Short Film Festival (Turkey)
18th International Short Film Festival Leuven (Belgium)
Absint Shorts – Dommelhof Neerpelt (Belgium)
Hans Herbots' Best Of 'Ghent International Film Festival (Belgium)

HENRY

CANADA/21MINS

Director: Yan England
Producer: Yan England

Synopsis: Henry, a great concert pianist, has his life thrown in turmoil the day the love of this life, Maria, disappears mysteriously. He'll then discover the inevitable verdict of life.

Director's Biography: *HENRY* is Yan England's second short film as writer, director, and producer. His first one, *MOI* received international acclaim winning a dozen awards while being shown in more than thirty festivals around the world. Furthermore, he was among the list of short films eligible for the Academy Awards.

A young talented actor, Yan lived in Los Angeles for a 5-year period in order to perfect his acting skills. Upon his return to Canada, his career blossomed. He can be seen in many television series and films for which he has also received various awards. Film being his passion, he is actively pursuing writing and directing. *HENRY* is a personal film inspired by his grand-father's last moments in life, which he wished to honor.

He produced *HENRY* without any financial backing. Due to the generosity of talented actors, and a professional film crew, he now has the immense privilege to be an Academy Award Nominee.

Awards:
Winner Best Short Film - Rhodes island international film festival

Festivals/Screenings:
World premiere: Opening night of Rhodes island international film festival (2012)
Cinequest film festival (2012)
Cleveland international film festival (2012)
Bermuda international film festival (2012)
Les rendez-vous du cinema québécois (2012)