

2010 SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES JURY MEMBERS

January 11, 2010

Park City, UT ([rushPRnews](#)) 01/11/10 — Distinguished International Group Includes Alison Maclean, Russell Banks, Sterlin Harjo, Parker Posey, Morgan Spurlock, Ondi Timoner and Christine Vachon

— The 2010 Sundance Film Festival announced today the members of five juries awarding prizes at the Festival, which runs January 21-31, 2010 in Park City, Salt Lake City, Ogden and Sundance, Utah. The juries collectively are comprised of individuals from the global arts community, each of whom brings unique perspective and range of experience.

All awards will be announced the evening of January 30 at the 2010 Sundance Film Festival Awards Ceremony, to be hosted by David Hyde Pierce at the Park City Racquet Club. The Short Film Awards will also be named earlier at a ceremony on Tuesday, January 26 at Park City's Jupiter Bowl. New for 2010, the Best of NEXT award, selected by ballots cast by the eight NEXT filmmakers, will celebrate a film creating the greatest art on a low budget. The Best of NEXT award is presented by YouTube™.

The 2010 Sundance film Festival Juries are:

U.S. Documentary Competition

Greg Barker

Greg Barker is an award-winning filmmaker who has worked in more than 50 countries across six continents. His most recent film, *Sergio* won the Documentary Editing Award at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival, is short-listed for the 2010 Academy Awards, and screens on HBO this spring.

Dayna Goldfine

For more than 20 years, Emmy Award-winning director/producer Dayna Goldfine has, together with her partner, Dan Geller, created critically acclaimed multi-character documentary narratives that weave individual personal stories into a larger portrait of the human experience. The National Society of Film Critics and the National Board of Review recognized their film, *Ballets Russes*, which screened at the 2005 Sundance Film Festival, as one of the top five documentaries that year.

Nancy Miller

Nancy Miller joined *Wired* as a senior editor in 2006 and currently oversees much of the magazine's entertainment coverage. Prior to *Wired*, she was a staff writer at *Entertainment Weekly* and a freelance producer and on-air correspondent for KCRW in Los Angeles.

Morgan Spurlock

Morgan Spurlock's first film, *Super Size Me*, premiered at the 2004 Festival, won the Directing Award and went on to receive the Writers Guild of America documentary screenplay award and earn an Academy Award nomination. Spurlock has directed, produced, and distributed multiple film and TV projects, including the critically acclaimed FX television series *30 Days* and the films *Where in the World Is Osama bin Laden?* (Sundance Film Festival 2008), *Confessions of a Superhero*, *Czech Dream*, *Chalk*, *The Future of Food*, *What Would Jesus Buy?*, and the soon-to-be-released *Freakonomics*.

Ondi Timoner

Ondi Timoner is the only filmmaker to win the Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival twice, first for *DIG!* in 2004 and again last year for *We Live in Public*. Both films are now part of the permanent collection at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City. Timoner has also directed the award-winning sociopolitical feature films *The Nature of the Beast* (1994) and *Join Us* (2007) and a short film, *Recycle*, which premiered at Sundance in 2005, continuing on to the Cannes Film Festival and schools worldwide.

U.S. Dramatic Competition

Russell Banks

Russell Banks is the author of five short-story collections and eleven novels, including *Cloudsplitter*, *Rule of the Bone*, and *The Reserve*. His work has received numerous awards and been widely translated and anthologized. Two of his novels, *The Sweet Hereafter* and *Affliction*, were adapted into award-winning films. *The Darling*, *Continental Drift*, and *Rule of the Bone* are currently in development. Banks is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

Jason Kliot

Jason Kliot is an Academy Award–nominated producer whose credits encompass more than 40 feature films by such acclaimed directors as Jim Jarmusch, Miguel Arteta, Brian De Palma, Hal Hartley, Steven Soderbergh, Nicole Holofcener, and Todd Solondz. Kliot has produced 20 films that have screened at the Sundance Film Festival, including two Grand Jury Prizewinners: *Welcome to the Dollhouse* in 1996 and *Three Seasons* in 1999.

Karyn Kusama

Karyn Kusama wrote and directed her first feature film, *Girlfight*, in 1999. The film won the Directing Award and shared the Grand Jury Prize at the 2000 Sundance Film Festival and was released by Sony Screen Gems. In 2005, she directed the science-fiction love story *Aeon Flux* for Paramount Pictures. Her third directorial effort, *Jennifer's Body*, was recently released by Twentieth Century Fox.

Parker Posey

Parker Posey has appeared in more than 50 films, including *Happy Tears* (upcoming); *Broken English*, which screened at the 2007 Sundance Film Festival and earned her an Independent Spirit Award nomination and an array of Christopher Guest films: *For Your Consideration*, *A Mighty Wind*, *Best in Show*, and *Waiting for Guffman*. For her performance in *The House of Yes*, Posey received a Special Jury Prize at Sundance in 1997.

Robert Yeoman

Robert Yeoman won the Independent Spirit Award for cinematography for Gus Van Sant's *Drugstore Cowboy*. He also worked on Roman Coppola's *CQ*; Noah Baumbach's *The Squid and the Whale*, which screened at the 2005 Sundance Film Festival; and Drew Barrymore's *Whip It*. Yeoman served as Wes Anderson's cinematographer on *Bottle Rocket*, *Rushmore*, *The Royal Tenenbaums*, *The Life Aquatic*, and *The Darjeeling Limited*. Studio credits include Peyton Reed's *Yes Man* and the upcoming *Get Him to the Greek*.

World Cinema Documentary Competition

Jennifer Baichwal

Jennifer Baichwal has been directing and producing documentaries for 15 years. Her last feature, *Manufactured Landscapes*, about the work of artist Edward Burtynsky, was released in 12 countries and screened at the 2007 Sundance Film Festival. *Act of God*, a feature documentary about the metaphysical effects of being struck by lightning, opened the Hot Docs Film Festival in May 2009 and is currently in release through Mongrel Media in Canada and Zeitgeist Films in the United States.

Jeffrey Brown

Jeffrey Brown is a senior correspondent for PBS's *NewsHour*, responsible for conducting studio discussions and reporting from the field with an emphasis on culture, arts, and the media. As a correspondent for the *NewsHour* since 1998, he has profiled and interviewed dozens of leading American and international writers, musicians, and other artistic figures. As senior producer for national affairs for more than a decade, he has helped shaped coverage of the economy, social policy, culture, and the arts.

Asako Fujioka

Asako Fujioka is the director of the Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival and works out of its Tokyo office. She has been associated with the Festival since 1993 after earlier work in film distribution. From 1995 to 2003, she coordinated the New Asian Currents program, a collection of films and videos by emerging documentarians from all over the Orient. She has also been a member of the selection committee for the Pusan International Film Festival's Asian Network of Documentary fund (AND) since 2006.

World Cinema Dramatic Competition

Alison Maclean

Writer/director Alison Maclean's short film, *Kitchen Sink* (1989), debuted at the Cannes Film Festival and won eight international awards. Her first feature, *Crush*, was shot in Rotorua, New Zealand, starred Marcia Gay Harden, and screened at the 1993 Sundance Film Festival. *Jesus' Son* (1999) won the Baby Lion and OCIC Catholic Awards at the Venice Film Festival. In 2004, Maclean codirected *Persons of Interest*, a documentary about Arab/Muslim men detained after Sept. 11, which screened as part of Sundance's Documentary Competition.

Lisa Schwarzbaum

Lisa Schwarzbaum has been a movie critic at *Entertainment Weekly* since 1994. In addition, she contributes book and theatre reviews, essays, and cultural criticism. Her freelance articles have appeared in the *New York Times Magazine*, *Vogue*, *More*, and numerous other publications. Schwarzbaum is a member of the National Society of Film Critics and the New York Film Critics Circle, where she is a past chair.

Sigurjon "Joni" Sighvatsson

Joni Sighvatsson, the principal of Palomar Pictures, is a veteran producer with more than 30 feature films and television series to his credit. Working with studios (*Arlington Road*, *K-19: The Widowmaker*) and independently (David Lynch's *Wild at Heart*, *Basquiat*), Sighvatsson has demonstrated a broad range of approaches in producing and choice of material. Currently, he is preparing a slate of more than 20 films, including *The Featherman* with Jason Statham. Sighvatsson's latest film, *Brothers*, starring Tobey Maguire, Jake Gyllenhaal, and Natalie Portman, opened to rave reviews.

Jury, Shorts Competition

The Short Film Jury will present the Jury Prizes in Short Filmmaking to one U.S. and one international short film playing at the Festival, as well as Honorable Mentions based on outstanding achievement and merit. Shorts Awards will be announced at the Sundance Film Festival Shorts Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, January 26 at Jupiter Bowl in Park City.

Sterlin Harjo

Sterlin Harjo, a native of Holdenville, Oklahoma, belongs to the Seminole and Creek nations. His first film, *Four Sheets to the Wind*, was developed at the Sundance Filmmakers Lab and screened at the 2007 Sundance Film Festival, where Tamara Podemski won a Special Jury Prize for her outstanding performance. His second film, *Barking Water*, screened at Sundance last year and was the only American film to play in the Venice Days section of the 2009 Venice Film Festival.

Brent Hoff

Brent Hoff is the editor and cofounder of Wholphin DVD, where he films drunk bees, crying competitions, and illegal transborder volleyball matches. Before that he authored *Mapping Epidemics*, a book on pandemic disease transmission; created television programs at *The Daily Show*, VH1, and Nickelodeon; and wrote articles about squid. His first feature script on the last days of Ol' Dirty Bastard (Russell Tyrone Jones) is currently in production...he hopes.

Christine Vachon

Christine Vachon is an American movie producer who, along with partner Pamela Koffler, runs New York City-based indie film icon Killer Films. Vachon produced Todd Haynes's controversial first feature, *Poison*, which won the Grand Jury prize at the 1991 Sundance Film Festival and is screening this year as part of the Sundance Collection. Since then, she has produced some of the most acclaimed American independent films, including *I'm Not There*, *Far from Heaven*, *Velvet Goldmine*, and *Safe*, also for Haynes; and *Boys Don't Cry*, *One Hour Photo*, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, *Happiness*, *I Shot Andy Warhol*, *Go Fish*, and *Swoon*, many of which have screened and won awards at Sundance.

About Festival Awards

The competitive categories of the Sundance Film Festival have introduced audiences to some of the most intriguing independent films and filmmakers of the past 25 years. At the 2010 Festival, Grand Jury Prizes will be awarded to one U.S. dramatic film and one U.S. documentary film screening in competition; World Cinema Jury Prizes will be awarded to one world dramatic film and one world documentary film screening in competition. In addition to the top jury prizes, all films in Competition are eligible to receive a range of awards, including: Directing Awards, Excellence in Cinematography Awards, and Documentary Editing Awards. The Waldo Salt Screenwriting Award will be presented to a U.S. film by the Dramatic Competition Jury, with the World Cinema Dramatic Competition Jury presenting the World Cinema Screenwriting Award. All films in Competition are eligible for Sundance Film Festival Audience Awards as selected by Film Festival audiences. New for 2010: Best of NEXT. Selected by ballots cast by the eight NEXT filmmakers, this award celebrates a film creating the greatest art on a low budget. The Best of NEXT award is presented by YouTube™.

Special Jury Prizes

The documentary and dramatic juries may, at their discretion, select films from each of the Festival's four competitions to receive special recognition for their unique vision or excellence.

2010 Sundance Film Festival Sponsors

The 2010 Sundance Film Festival sponsors to date include: Presenting Sponsors—*Entertainment Weekly*, HP, Honda and Sundance Channel; Leadership Sponsors—American Express, Bing™, DIRECTV, G-Technology by Hitachi, Southwest Airlines and YouTube™; Sustaining Sponsors—ABSOLUT® VODKA, Blockbuster Inc.,

FilterForGood®, a partnership between Brita® and Nalgene®, L'Oréal Paris, Sony Electronics Inc., Stella Artois®, Timberland and Utah Film Commission. Their support will defray costs associated with the 10-day Festival and the nonprofit Sundance Institute's year-round programs for independent film and theatre artists. In return, sponsorship of the preeminent Festival provides these organizations with global exposure, a platform for brand impressions and unique access to Festival attendees: The 2009 Sundance Film Festival, attended by over 40,000 visitors, generated an overall economic impact of a record \$92.1 million and generated over \$18 million in media exposure.

Founded by Robert Redford in 1981, Sundance Institute is a not-for-profit organization that fosters the development of original storytelling in film and theatre, and presents the annual Sundance Film Festival. Internationally recognized for its artistic development programs for directors, screenwriters, producers, film composers, playwrights and theatre artists, Sundance Institute has nurtured such projects as *Angels in America*, *Spring Awakening*, *Boys Don't Cry* and *Born into Brothels*. www.sundance.org

About the author:

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