

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

**ACADEMY AWARD® NOMINATED WRITER AND
GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINATED DIRECTOR
TERRY GILLIAM BEGINS PRINCIPAL PHOTOGRAPHY
IN SASKATCHEWAN**

***\$20 million feature film marks the most high profile
project to film in the province to date***

October 5, 2004 (Regina, SK) – The Saskatchewan Film and Video Development Corporation (SaskFilm) is pleased to announce that Academy Award nominated writer, Golden Globe nominated director and Monty Python member Terry Gilliam (*The Brothers Grimm*, *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*, *The Fisher King*), has commenced principal photography on the feature film, ***Tideland*** in Saskatchewan. Production will take place over ten weeks in the new Canada Saskatchewan Production Studios in Regina and on location in Saskatchewan's scenic Qu'Appelle Valley. ***Tideland*** marks Gilliam's first feature film produced in Canada.

"We are very pleased to welcome Terry Gilliam, one of the world's most respected writer/directors to the province. Saskatchewan, seen through the extraordinary eyes of Terry Gilliam will make an impact on audiences worldwide," says Valerie Creighton, C.E.O and Film Commissioner of SaskFilm. "Attracting such significant creative talent and an experienced producing team of Jeremy Thomas and Gabriella Martinelli reflects a considerable achievement by the province of Saskatchewan."

Produced by Jeremy Thomas of Recorded Picture Company (*Rabbit Proof Fence*, *The Last Emperor*) and Gabriella Martinelli of Capri Films (*Romeo + Juliet*, *M. Butterfly*), ***Tideland*** is based on the novel by Mitch Cullin and was adapted for screen by Terry Gilliam and Tony Grisoni (*Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*, *The Brothers Grimm*). Thomas and Martinelli previously collaborated on David Cronenberg's *Naked Lunch*.

"We are delighted to bring *Tideland* to Saskatchewan," says Gabriella Martinelli of Capri Films. "The province's locations, facilities, incentives and people made it the perfect fit for this project."

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Starring nine-year-old Jodelle Ferland (*Kingdom Hospital*, *Wolf Lake*) from Vancouver, Janet McTeer (*Tumbleweeds*), Jennifer Tilly (*Bullets Over Broadway*), Brendan Fletcher (*Ginger Snaps*) and Jeff Bridges (*The Door in the Floor*, *The Big Lebowski*), **Tideland** is a riveting fable about an abandoned girl's life and fantasies that introduces us to the extraordinary, suspenseful and surreal world of a precocious adolescent, Jeliza-Rose, escaping from the harsh reality of her childhood.

Tideland is produced with the participation of the Foresight Film Partnership in the UK, Telefilm Canada, Astral Media, The Canadian Television Fund, Harold Greenberg Fund and the Saskatchewan Film Employment Tax Credit. Nicola Pecorini (*Harrison's Flowers*, *Rules of Engagement*) is the Director of Photography and Jasna Stefanovic (*Cube*, *The Virgin Suicides*) the Production Designer. The script was developed with the assistance of the U.K. Film Council Development Fund.

About Terry Gilliam: Terry Gilliam is one of the most singular talents in film, and among the most wildly imaginative directors working today. Born in Minneapolis, Gilliam emigrated to England in 1967 where he went on to become the only American member of the MONTY PYTHON FLYING CIRCUS troupe, responsible for writing, crafting the animated sequences and occasionally performing for the wildly popular television show.

Gilliam's iconoclastic vision first reached moviegoers with their debut film, MONTY PYTHON AND THE HOLY GRAIL, co-directed with Terry Jones. He had his first outing as a solo director with JABBERWOCKY. Gilliam then directed TIME BANDITS, a surreal journey through history led by a small boy and several dwarves. Bearing many similarities to his previous film, its brisker pace did better at the box office and put Gilliam in the ranks of directors to watch. After co-directing MONTY PYTHON'S THE MEANING OF LIFE, he made what many consider his masterpiece, a dystopian satire of a technocratic future: BRAZIL. In addition to critical praise and a Los Angeles Film Critics' award for best film, Gilliam received an Academy Award® nomination for best original screenplay. It was four years before he directed THE ADVENTURES OF BARON MUNCHAUSEN, a return to historical fantasy, which was followed by his most accessible work, THE FISHER KING. Foregoing much of his familiar ornate visual style, the director focused on characters rather than spectacle; the film won the Silver Lion at the Venice International Film Festival. Gilliam returned to the director's chair in 1995, achieving his biggest hit to date with the star-studded science fiction epic 12 MONKEYS. The film was a critical and commercial success, allowing Gilliam the freedom to take even more creative risks. His next project, FEAR AND LOATHING IN LAS VEGAS, was an adaptation of Hunter S. Thompson's 1971 novel starring Johnny Depp. Gilliam then attempted to film his lifelong dream, THE MAN WHO KILLED DON QUIXOTE, in late 2000, but problems led to the production's being shut down despite his wishes. In 2003, Gilliam filmed THE BROTHERS GRIMM in Prague, starring Matt Damon and Heath Ledger.

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SaskFilm and Video Development Corporation (SaskFilm) enables the film, television and interactive industry in Saskatchewan to continually enhance the quality, quantity and marketability of its products and resources. SaskFilm was established to stimulate and foster the development of an indigenous film, video and new media industry through the administration of the Saskatchewan Film Employment Tax Credit Program; managing the state of the art Canada/Saskatchewan Production Studios; and by providing financial assistance to qualified production companies for purposes of developing, producing and distributing film, video and new media products. Visit www.saskfilm.com and www.saskstudios.com.

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Contact:

Kerry Fraser
Communications Officer
Saskatchewan Film and Video Development Corporation
Telephone: 306 798 7980
Email: kfraser@saskfilm.com