

SASKFILM CLIPS

JUNE 2009

SASKATCHEWAN-MADE FEATURE FILM **45 RPM** BUILDS MOMENTUM ON THE FESTIVAL CIRCUIT

Despite struggling to acquire the rights to "Roll Over Beethoven", a nearly devastating mistake at the lab and filming his script in a mere 17 days, Saskatoon-based writer/director Dave Schultz was rewarded handsomely for his perseverance. Filmed in the village of Bulyea, the Qu'Appelle Valley and Regina in 2007, **45 RPM** is a tender coming of age film set against the backdrop of the Cold War and the birth of 60s rock and roll. Set in the fictional northern Saskatchewan town of Goose Lake, the film stars veteran actors Michael Madsen (*Reservoir Dogs*), August Schellenburg (*Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*), Saskatoon's own Kim Coates (*Sons of Anarchy*), Amanda Plummer (*Pulp Fiction*) alongside newcomers Justine Banzky and Jordan Gavaris. After successful screenings at Calgary International Film Festival, Vancouver International Film Festival, the Sao Paulo Film Festival, the Yorkton Film Festival and across Western Canada, **45 RPM** premiered to packed houses in Regina and Saskatoon and positive reviews from film critics across the country.



Saskatoon's own Kim Coates, writer/director David Schultz and co-producer Anand Ramayya present Christine Tell, Minister of Tourism, Parks, Culture and Sport with a framed movie poster for **45 RPM** at the film's premiere in Saskatoon. Photo: Karma Film.

"...Schultz emerges as the real diamond in the rough with his subtle screenplay and deft hand with actors. His vision surfaces quietly but surely through the fog of coming of age clichés, offering viewers something that will linger long after the credits roll."

— Eric Volmers, CanWest News Service

Ultimately, 45 RPM is a tale of self-awareness and redemption that successfully veils many of its final revelations until its final minutes. With a supporting cast that includes well-known broadcaster Terry David Mulligan and Michael Madsen, it peers beneath the veneer of innocence attributed to the '50s but, much to director David Schultz's credit, never becomes uncomfortably sordid or heavy-handed.

— Rick Overwater, The Calgary Sun

Written and directed by Saskatoon's David Schultz, **45 RPM** was an interprovincial co-production of Saskatoon's Anand Ramayya of Karma Film and Calgary's Chad Frislev and Chad Oakes of Nomadic Pictures. Don Carmody is Executive Producer.



Co-producer Anand Ramayya and writer/director David Schultz welcome guests and movie-goers lined up down Broadway Avenue for **45 RPM**'s Saskatoon premiere. Photo: Karma Film.

SaskFilm
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WINTER/SPRING
PRODUCTION RECAP



Director Rob King and star John Pyper Ferguson (*Brothers and Sisters*) on the set of *Hungry Hills*. Photo: Allan Feildel.

Hungry Hills

The feature film adaptation of the award-winning novel *Hungry Hills* by legendary Canadian author George Ryga was filmed in and around Regina this spring under the helm of Saskatchewan-based director Rob King. The scenic hills and countryside of Saskatchewan's Qu'Appelle Valley provide the setting for Ryga's story of a young man's desperate attempts to overcome poverty and discrimination.

Hungry Hills stars Keir Gilchrist (*United States of Tara*), Alexander De Jordy (*Sticks and Stones*), John Pyper Ferguson (*Brothers & Sisters*), Gabrielle Rose (*Grace*), Alexia Fast (*Kaya, Left Coast*) and Cavan Cunningham (*Corner Gas*).

Rhonda Baker of RGB Productions, Rob King, Avi Federgreen and Gary Fisher produce alongside co-producer Gerard Demaer. Jennifer Jonas and Leonard Farlinger of New Real Films serve as executive producers.



Rupert Friend stars in the co-production *Lullaby for Pi*, filmed in Regina and in the Canada Saskatchewan Production Studios in spring 2009. Photo: Minds Eye Entertainment.

Lullaby For Pi

Filmed in the Canada Saskatchewan Production Studios and on location in Regina, *Lullaby for Pi* stars Rupert Friend (*The Young Victoria, The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*) and Clémence Poésy (*Heartless, In Bruges*) in a romantic drama about a bewitching jazz singer who is so traumatized by the recent death of his wife that he can't sing. He has a magical encounter with a mysterious woman named Pi, and they strike up an unlikely friendship which leads to a discovery of second chances and possibly love. The love story marks the directorial début of Benoît Philippon.

Producers are Jean-Charles Levy of Forecast Pictures, Kevin DeWalt of Minds Eye Entertainment and Christine Vachon of Killer Films.



Actor/director Corbin Bernsen and Lorne Cardinal star in the film *Rust*, filmed entirely on location in the town of Kipling. Photo: Russ Kearns

Rust

Director/producer Corbin Bernsen and producers Dana Lesiuk and Chris Aronoff were driven to produce a feature film in the town of Kipling despite their limited resources. The small-but-mighty production of *Rust* defied the odds by rallying the town officials to support the film, training and hiring local townspeople in key acting roles, filming in -30 temperatures and redefining what it means to make an independent film. Starring the new talent of Kipling, the film features a minister (Bernsen) suffering a mid-life crisis of faith who returns to his hometown for Christmas. Upon arrival, he is faced with the aftermath of a tragedy; his childhood friend has confessed to a crime which has taken the lives of the family within. Trying to make sense of it all, he also struggles to find his lost faith. *Rust* will be released in November 2009.

INDUSTRY TRAINING AND
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**Advanced Makeup and Prosthetics
with Charles Porlier**

**Ten Saskatchewan film and television makeup
artists complete intensive training with two-
time Emmy Award winning instructor**

SaskFilm and IATSE 295 joined forces to provide 10 Saskatchewan film and television makeup artists with a two-weekend intensive course led by two-time Emmy Award winning makeup artist Charles Porlier. Initiated by SaskFilm, *Advanced Makeup and Prosthetics* provided artists with an understanding of the latest advancements in the profession through hands-on instruction, the exposure to cutting-edge makeup and prosthetic products and the tools required to upgrade their skill sets and market themselves effectively to meet the changing demands in the film and television industry. Over the course of the two weekends, Charles imparted his vast skills and expertise in the film and television industry on such films as *X-Men 2, Taken, The Santa Clause, The Sixth Day, Mission to Mars* and



Two-time Emmy Award winning makeup artist Charles Porlier demonstrates the application of prosthetics to makeup to Regina makeup artist Nina McArthur. Photo: SaskFilm.



Instructor Charles Porlier assists Regina-based makeup artist Tracy George with an application of prosthetics. Photo: SaskFilm.

his role in developing the Makeup Design Program for Film and Television at Vancouver Film School.

Participants earned certificates in Advanced Makeup Production Education including:

- *Market Skills & Self-Analysis/Career Preparation*
- *Modern Production Makeup Logistics*
- *Introduction to Digital Technology and HD for the Production Makeup Artist*
- *Understanding Modern 3D Makeup Processes*
- *3D Makeup Application: Gluedown and Detailing for Foam & Gelatin*

"It was fantastic, and Charles was a great speaker, and of course makeup artist. We were very lucky to have him come, for his skills and personality. This was just such a great idea, and I will be sure to tell everyone what a great experience it was. I learned a lot, and hope I can help others with what we learned." - Jennifer Forberg, makeup artist

Brunch with a Broadcaster

Saskatchewan's television producers meet with broadcast executives from across the country in Regina.

Implemented in 2004, SaskFilm's *Brunch with a Broadcaster* forum focused on deciphering the dramatically changing marketplace and understanding the impact of these changes on broadcasters, program buyers and acquisition executives in Canada. This initiative allows members of Saskatchewan's production community to meet face-to-face with decision makers to discuss projects in development and trends in the industry. One-on-one meetings held with network representatives from CTV, APTN, Vision, Movieola and HiFiHDTV allowed members of Saskatchewan's film and television industry to build new business relationships and strengthen existing ones. This exclusive opportunity allowed Saskatchewan producers to better position themselves to strategically respond to the changing industry landscape.

"I just wanted to say thank you for bringing me to Regina. I had a great time and met some really interesting people. The day was a big success from my perspective." - Craig Colby, HiFiHDTV

Leadership for Keys with industry veteran Mickey Rogers

Saskatchewan's senior crew members and department heads gain leadership skills for on and off set

Presented by SaskFilm, DGC and IATSE 295, *Leadership for Keys* was a two day seminar featuring guest speaker and global media strategist Mickey Rogers. Through her work with the NSI, the Toronto International Film Festival and Martha Stewart Omni Media, Mickey provided department heads, assistant department heads and keys with the tools and skills to build effective teams on and off set. The workshop was designed to strengthen the capacity of keys and department heads and to encourage the development of leadership skills within crews within Saskatchewan's film and television industry.



Industry veteran Mickey Rogers leads senior members of Saskatchewan's film and television industry through leadership training.. Photo: SaskFilm.

A FEW MINUTES WITH
FILMMAKER **CORY GENEROUX**

Cory Generoux is a status Indian from the Sturgeon Lake First Nation just north of Prince Albert. Being raised with his southern family, Cory often found himself tussling between northern customs and southern customs and has since versed himself well in both.

Cory started to pursue a career in film on the set of *Big Bear*, a feature film Doug Cuthand of Saskatoon produced in 1998. Since that time he fell in love with the craft and decided to pursue a career in the media arts discipline. Over a decade later, Cory has become proficient in many aspects of the film industry and media. From acting to editing, web designing to desktop publishing, writing to producing and directing, Cory has yet to put his full talent and skills to work in one large menagerie of creativity for all to experience.

As one-third of the comedy trio Bionic Bannock Boys Cory is no stranger to the stage and character acting. He travelled for several years with an award winning stage play *Seven Days from Midnight* of which he wrote and starred while attending film/TV school.

Q: You were an original participant in SaskFilm/NFB/SCN's First Stories program with three other filmmakers. How was the program helpful in teaching you about the fundamentals of documentary filmmaking?

A: The First Stories program was very helpful to my development as a documentary story teller. It really got into a lot of story breakdown and the process of telling the story as you go, or as it happens. It reinforced techniques I used and helped to better understand new techniques I could utilize in the future.

Q: Congratulations on winning the award for Best Aboriginal Production for your documentary *Dogz Lyfe: Burdens of a Gangsta Rapper* at the 2009 Yorkton Film Festival. Tell us about your experiences filming *Dogz Lyfe* and what you hoped to achieve from it?

A: *Dogz Lyfe* was a tough film to make because of the content and the presentation of that content. It is a film about a man immersed in the gang life and in his music while wearing many different hats. I was very careful about portraying the negative aspects in a glorifying manner. What I hoped to achieve and



From top to bottom: On location with *Pow-Wow Thunder*; Cory and the comedy troupe Bionic Bannock Boys; Promotional photo for the award-winning documentary *Dogz Lyfe: Burdens of a Gangsta Rapper*

what drove my storytelling was when an Elder asked us to pray for people who have wandered off the red road, for people who are living a negative, unhealthy lifestyle and for people in the urban centres, Robin to me epitomized that. I wanted to show people who exactly you are asked to pray for, whether you like the guy or not makes no difference to me or the film, but it gives you a better understanding of this mans

life, the road he walks and the reasons why we pray for people like that.

Q: You seem to enjoy working in both documentary (*Dogz Lyfe, PowWow Thunder*) and in comedy with Bionic Bannock Boys. How does working in different genres fulfill your creative needs?

A: Having the ability, resources and opportunity to work in different genres fulfills a tremendous creative outlet. There are many different aspects to what I do with who I am, my identity and the role I have. Sometimes documentary is the best way of dealing with that, sometimes sketch comedy is a good way of dealing with that, soon I will be challenging my post-creativity with sports entertainment filming. Sometimes I have to pull over on the highway when I'm travelling and just write down ideas. I literally have hundreds of ideas, some large and grand, some short and sweet. I do it from my heart and will continue to do it that way.

Q: What's next for you?

A: On deck we have two productions - *Pow-Wow Thunder*, an uplifting, comedic, quirky, emotional documentary about the Pow-Wow celebration through the eyes and words of Pow-Wow announcers. I wanted to take a totally different way to tell this story because there is so much to the celebrations and events. So I focused on the emotion. It is a very positive breath of fresh air to the serious stuff I have been writing and filming the past number of years. We have a website for it - www.PowWowThunder.ca. And, at some point this summer we will be filming another short film as part of the "I Heart Regina" project which is a collective of 16 filmmakers who were invited to make a short film about Regina and contribute it to a feature length. It is quite interesting. My film is a love story. It's a nice romance about a Pow-Wow singer who wins over his love through song.

For more industry news and program information please visit www.saskfilm.com