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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**WOMEN IN FILM AND TELEVISION INTERNATIONAL'S (WIFTI)  
3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL SHORT FILM SHOWCASE CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY  
TO SCREEN IN TWENTY CITIES WORLDWIDE!**

*(New York, NY - February 12, 2008)* - Women in Film and Television International (WIFTI) is proud to announce the launch of its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Short Film Showcase Celebrating International Women's Day. For one night only - from Wednesday, March 5 to Sunday, March 9, 2008 – an exceptional compilation of short films directed by some of the world's best female directors will be presented in twenty cities across the WIFTI network of Chapters worldwide.

From Los Angeles, USA to Auckland, New Zealand, WIFT International Chapters worldwide will present an exhilarating compilation of films culled from over fifty finalist selections submitted by WIFTI's International Film Festival Partners. The 2008 Festivals Partners include: *Palm Springs International Festival of Short Films (USA)*, *The Female Eye Film Festival (Canada)*, *NYWIFT /Hamptons International Film Festival's To The Point: Women Telling Tales Through Media (USA)*; *St. John's International Women's Film Festival (Canada)* and *The W.O.W (World of Women) Film Festival (Australia)*.

"International Women's Day commemorates achievements, acts of courage and determination by ordinary women. What better way for WIFT members and the film loving public to celebrate than with a screening of the world's best short films by and about women?" comments Paulina Abarca-Cantin, Founding Producer of Women in Film and Television International's Short Film Showcase. "Short films are an essential calling card for today's directors. It's a rich and exciting arena encompassing every genre and technique possible. Thanks to our stellar Festival Partners and following an arduous selection process, we are delighted to present a truly exceptional film compilation to audiences worldwide," says Abarca-Cantin.

Official Selection - 2008 WIFT International Short Film Showcase:

**A MOMENT** - Directed by Valeria Ruiz (Peru / USA)  
**BLACK AND WHITE** - Directed by Kirsty MacDonald (New Zealand)  
**CHINESE DUMPLINGS** - Directed by Michelle Hung (Los Angeles, USA)  
**DESIRES** - Directed by Kate Jessop (United Kingdom)  
**HAPPINESS** - Directed by Sophie Barthes (France / USA)  
**MEET-MARKET.ca** - Directed by Geneviève Poulette (Canada)  
**ONE HUNDREDTH OF A SECOND** - Directed by Susan Jacobson (United Kingdom)  
**ORCHIDS** - Directed by Bryce Dallas Howard (Los Angeles, USA)  
**SEXY THING** - Directed by Denie Pentecost (Australia)

Each WIFTI Chapter may add an outstanding regional film of their choosing to WIFTI's Showcase. Individual event dates, Special Guests and final film selection will be confirmed by individual WIFT Chapters.

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Together, the nine short films finalists in the Showcase have garnered over fifty international awards including *Official Selection: Shorts Competition, Festival de Cannes France 2006* and *Winner: Creative Excellence Award at the Melbourne International Film Festival* for **Denie Pentecost's SEXY THING**; *Winner: Best Live Action Short under 15 mins: Palm Springs International Short Film Festival 2007* for **Sophie Barthes' HAPPINESS**; *Official Selection : Palm Springs International Shorts Festival 2007* for star on the rise **Bryce Dallas Howard's** (Spider-Man 3, As You Like It) **ORCHIDS**; *Winner: Best Short Documentary and Best Emerging Director: 2006 New Zealand International Documentary Film Festival for Kirsty MacDonald's BLACK AND WHITE*; *Winner: Special Jury Prize at the Funchal Film Festival, Portugal for Susan Jacobson's ONE HUNDREDTH OF A SECOND*; *Audience Award for Best Short Film at the Brooklyn Film Festival USA 2007* for **Valeria Ruiz's A MOMENT**; *Winner: Gold Remi Award: WorldFest Houston USA, 2007* for **Genevieve Poulette's MEET-MARKET.CA**; *Winner: Best Cinematography Prize - UCLA Directors' Spotlight at the DGA, USA* for **Michelle Hung's CHINESE DUMPLINGS** and *Official Selection: Films de Femmes, Créteil and St. John's International Women's Festival* for **Kate Jessop's** stunning short **DESIRES**.

"Couple the visionary work of these directors with the ingenuity of our Chapters to present fabulously entertaining events and you have the makings of an unforgettable evening," remarks Abarca-Cantin from Montreal, Canada.

"This is one of my favorite events of the year!" exclaims Eileen Hoeter of Vancouver, Canada, current Chair of Women in Film and Television International. "For 25 years, I have been involved in an International Women's Day celebration. This is WIFTI's third year producing the Showcase and it is always an unbelievable event! It's truly inspiring to think that women around the world are watching films by women, all together on the same day."

#### WIFTI Chapters Participating in the Showcase and Screening Locations:

Women in Film and Television Alberta - Calgary and Edmonton, Canada – [www.wifta.ca](http://www.wifta.ca)  
 Canada, Women in Film and Television Auckland - Auckland, New Zealand - [www.wiftauckland.org.nz](http://www.wiftauckland.org.nz)  
 Women in Film and Television Atlanta (WIFTA) - Atlanta, USA – [www.wifta.org](http://www.wifta.org)  
 Women in Film and Video New England (WIFV)- Boston, USA – [www.womeninfilmvideo.org](http://www.womeninfilmvideo.org)  
 Women in Film Chicago - Chicago, USA – [www.wifchicago.org](http://www.wifchicago.org)  
 Women in Film – Dallas, USA – JULY 8 screening \*\*\* - [www.wifdallas.org](http://www.wifdallas.org)  
 Women in Film and Video, Denmark - Copenhagen, Denmark - [www.wift.dk](http://www.wift.dk)  
 Women in Film (WIF LA) - Los Angeles, USA – [www.wif.org](http://www.wif.org)  
 Minnesota Women in Film - Minnesota, USA – [www.mnwift.org](http://www.mnwift.org)  
 Femmes de cinéma, de la télévision et des nouveaux médias (FCTNM) - Montreal, Canada – [www.fctnm.ca](http://www.fctnm.ca)  
 Women in Film and Television New South Wales – Sydney, Australia – [www.wift.org](http://www.wift.org)  
 New York Women in Film (NYWIFT) - New York, USA – [www.nywift.org](http://www.nywift.org)  
 Palm Springs Women in Film and Television – Palm Springs, California - [www.womeninfilm.com](http://www.womeninfilm.com)  
 Women in Film and Media Pittsburgh - Pittsburgh, USA – [www.wifmpit.com](http://www.wifmpit.com)  
 New Mexico Women in Film - Santa Fe, USA – [www.nmwif.com](http://www.nmwif.com)  
 St. John's International Women's Film Festival - Newfoundland, Canada – [www.womensfilmfestival.com](http://www.womensfilmfestival.com)  
 Toronto (WIFT-T) - Toronto, Canada – [www.wift.com](http://www.wift.com)  
 Women in Film and Video (WIFV) - Washington, USA - [www.wifv.org](http://www.wifv.org)  
 Women in Film and Television - Vancouver, Canada – [www.womeninfilm.ca](http://www.womeninfilm.ca)

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**WIFTI** is a global network comprised of over 35 Women In Film and Television chapters worldwide and more than 10,000 members dedicated to advancing professional development and achievement for women working in all areas of film, video and other screen-based media. To accomplish this goal, WIFTI provides networking and learning opportunities, scholarships, a film finishing fund, a presence at major worldwide film festivals, as well as offering help and encouragement to women who aspire to work in the film and TV industries. [www.wifti.org](http://www.wifti.org)

The WIFTI Short Film Showcase was launched at the 2006 WIFT International Summit held in Los Angeles, USA  
<http://www.wifti.org/2008SFS/>