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**FILM INDEPENDENT ANNOUNCES KATHRYN BIGELOW AS GUEST DIRECTOR OF
2010 LOS ANGELES FILM FESTIVAL,
PRESENTED BY THE LOS ANGELES TIMES**

Conversations with Christopher Nolan and Edgar Wright added

**J.J. Abrams, Rosanna Arquette, Moby, Eli Roth, Adam Shankman,
and more join Festival programs**

LOS ANGELES (June 9, 2010) – Film Independent, the non-profit arts organization that produces the Spirit Awards, the Los Angeles Film Festival, and year-round artist development programs and exhibition events announced Academy Award-winning director Kathryn Bigelow as its Guest Director of the 2010 Los Angeles Film Festival. In her role as Guest Director, Bigelow will attend the 9th annual Filmmaker Retreat at Skywalker Ranch in Marin County, California, a gathering of Festival filmmakers, special invited artists and Festival staff. The retreat is made possible by Skywalker Sound, with support from MySpace and Deluxe Entertainment Services Group / EFILM.

Directors Christopher Nolan and Edgar Wright will each present a Conversation at the Festival. Nolan will introduce a screening of Alan Parker's *Pink Floyd the Wall*, followed by a conversation with Elvis Mitchell discussing the film's influence on Nolan's filmmaking. Wright will be joined by special guest J.J. Abrams for a lively conversation about Wright's career, with a sneak peak at scenes from his upcoming film *Scott Pilgrim vs. the World*.

Additional talent at the Festival include directors Richard Kelly, Eli Roth and Adam Shankman for a Poolside Chat on "The Power of the Tweet"; cartoonist Lalo Alcazar, filmmaker Charles Burnett, and writers Luke Davies and Jerry Stahl for a Poolside Chat on "Capturing L.A." Directors Jay Duplass, Mark Duplass and Gary Ross, actors Shohreh Aghdashloo, James Cromwell and William Mapother, and composers BT, Moby and Gustavo Santaolalla will be discussing their craft in the ever-popular Coffee Talks. '80s DJ Jon Sidel will be spinning before the free outdoor screening of *Desperately Seeking Susan* hosted at 7 + Fig at Ernst & Young Plaza, with star Rosanna Arquette in attendance.

Visit www.LAFilmFest.com for screening dates and times, and to purchase tickets and passes.

ABOUT THE 2010 LOS ANGELES FILM FESTIVAL

Now in its sixteenth year, the Los Angeles Film Festival is widely recognized as a world-class event, showcasing the best of new American and international cinema and providing the movie-loving public with access to some of the most critically acclaimed filmmakers, film industry professionals, and emerging talent from around the world.

The Festival features unique signature programs including the Filmmaker Retreat, Ford Amphitheater Outdoor Screenings, Poolside Chats, and more. Additionally, the Festival screens short films created by high school students and has a special section devoted to music videos.

Over 200 features, shorts, and music videos from more than 40 countries make up the main body of the Festival.

The Los Angeles Film Festival is presented by the Los Angeles Times and is supported by L.A. LIVE and Premier Sponsor ZonePerfect® Nutrition Bars and Principal Sponsors Kodak and Subaru. Special support is provided by the National Endowment for the Arts and The Academy Foundation of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. The Standard, Downtown LA is the official Host Hotel, American Airlines is the Official Airline Partner, WireImage is the Official Photography Agency, and PR Newswire is the Official Breaking News Service of Film Independent.

More information can be found at LAFilmFest.com

ABOUT FILM INDEPENDENT

Film Independent is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit arts organization that champions independent film and supports a community of artists who embody diversity, innovation, and uniqueness of vision. Film Independent helps filmmakers make their movies, builds an audience for their projects, and works to diversify the film industry. Film Independent's Board of Directors, filmmakers, staff, and constituents are comprised of an inclusive community of individuals across ability, age, ethnicity, gender, race, and sexual orientation. Anyone passionate about film can become a member, whether you are a filmmaker, industry leader, or film lover.

With over 250 annual screenings and events, Film Independent provides access to a network of like-minded artists who are driving creativity in the film industry. Film Independent offers free Filmmaker Labs for selected writers, directors, and producers; provides cut-rate services for filmmakers; and presents year-round networking opportunities. Film Independent's mentorship and job placement program, Project:Involve, pairs emerging culturally diverse filmmakers with film industry professionals.

Film Independent produces the Los Angeles Film Festival, celebrating the best of American and international cinema, and the Spirit Awards, a celebration honoring films and filmmakers that embody independence and dare to challenge the status quo.

For more information or to become a member, visit FilmIndependent.org.

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