



## **REEL Recovery Film Festival 2012 Announces Lineup** **Pre-Festival: Rally for Recovery September 30, 2012**

**Vancouver, BC (September 25, 2012)** – The Orchard Recovery Center, along with Writers in Treatment, proudly announce the lineup of the **2<sup>nd</sup> annual REEL Recovery Film Festival**. The Vancouver edition runs October 19-20, 2012 at District 319 and will screen a diverse collection of full length and short films showcasing the hope in recovery from substance abuse. Orchard Recovery celebrates their 10-year anniversary with two ways of giving back: REEL Recovery Film Festival and preceding it the Rally for Recovery celebrating Mayor Robertson's proclamation of Recovery Day.

This year's film fest highlights include a Vancouver-exclusive premiere of **Bill W.**, which tells the story of how William G. Wilson, co-founder of Alcoholics Anonymous, found his way out of addiction and forged a path for countless others to follow; **Unguarded**, an ESPN film, documents basketball star Chris Herren's struggle to reclaim his life from a devastating drug addiction; finally **Beauty Mark** tells the story of Diane Israel, a psychotherapist and former champion triathlete, and her personal struggles with eating disorders and obsessive exercising. The complete lineup details:

[www.orchardrecovery.com/filmfest](http://www.orchardrecovery.com/filmfest)

The opening gala will host a Canadian-exclusive premier of the trailer of **The Anonymous People**, a Greg Williams film in production. This film aims to publicize the emerging Addiction Recovery Advocacy Movement, and Williams will be documenting the September 30 Rally for Recovery to include in the final film.

"The REEL Recovery Film Festival and the Rally for Recovery are two unprecedented opportunities for people to publicly celebrate recovery in Canada," stated AnnMarie McCullough, communications director for Orchard Recovery. "The films we are showing at the REEL Recovery Film Festival open up the conversation and reflect the hope in recovery."

The REEL Recovery Film Festival also shows this year in New York, Los Angeles, and Fort Lauderdale. Only in its fourth year, the multi-city event has already procured international attention and noteworthy sponsors, including the Betty Ford Institute. More information and ticket sales details (October 19-20, 2012 at District 319) [www.bit.ly/REELrecovery2012VanTickets](http://www.bit.ly/REELrecovery2012VanTickets)

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### **REMINDER OF THE DATE – PRE-FEST EVENT: RALLY FOR RECOVERY**

**Where:** Vancouver Art Gallery (on Georgia St.), Vancouver, BC

**When:** September 30, 2012 @ 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm PST

**RSVP:** Mediatonic PR [buzz@mediatonicpr.com](mailto:buzz@mediatonicpr.com) or 778.737.6877, by Sept 27

**About ORCHARD RECOVERY CENTER [www.orchardrecovery.com](http://www.orchardrecovery.com)**

Orchard Recovery Center is a private residential drug and alcohol recovery center. For ten years, we have provided customized treatment solutions based on 12-step recovery in a beautiful resort setting. Our continuum of care includes medically supervised detox, primary care, sober living housing, and a full range of outpatient services and aftercare programming.

**About Writers in Treatment [www.writersintreatment.org](http://www.writersintreatment.org)**

Writers in Treatment is an organization whose primary purpose is to save lives through promoting and providing treatment as the best first step solution for addiction, alcoholism, and other self-destructive behaviours. We also produce educational, prevention, and cultural events that celebrate sobriety while reducing the stigma of addiction.

**For Media Enquiries and interviews, please contact:**

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**HIGH RES IMAGES – Available Upon Request**

**Interviews available with:**

- **Festival Rep:** AnnMarie McCullough Dir. of Communications, Orchard Recovery Center
- **REEL Recovery Film Festival Producer:** Leonard Buschel – Advance Phoner & Oct 19-20 in person.
- **Unguarded:** Chris Herren (star); Jonathan Hock (Director) – Advance Phoner Only
- **Beauty Mark:** Diane Israel (Producer) – Advance Phoner Only
- **Bill W.:** Dan Carracino & Kevin Hanlon (Directors) – Advance Phoner Only
- **Spare Change:** Steve Hanson (Producer & Co-Writer; North Vancouver Resident) – Advance & In-studio.
- **The Anonymous People:** Greg Williams (Director & Producer) – Advance Phoner Only

**The Anonymous People**

*The Anonymous People* is a feature documentary film by Greg Williams about the 23.5 million Americans in long-term recovery from alcohol and drug addiction. Currently in production, the film features prominent people in recovery such as Miss USA 2006, Tara Conner, Bestselling Author of Broken, William Cope Moyers, and Chief Development Officer of Subway, Don Fertman, among others. Just like women with breast cancer, or people with HIV/AIDS, a new controversial public health movement is emerging across the country. *The Anonymous People* documents this public recovery movement through the eyes of the leaders, volunteers, corporate executives and public figures who are selflessly laying it all on the line to save the lives of others just like them. <http://bit.ly/reelanonymsneek>

**Bill W**

Bill W. was included in TIME Magazine's "100 Persons of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century." *Bill W.* (2012) tells the story of William G. Wilson, co-founder of Alcoholics Anonymous with Dr. Bob Smith. Interviews, recreations, and rare archival material reveal how Bill Wilson, a hopeless drunk near death from his alcoholism, found a way out of his own addiction and then forged a path for countless others to follow. Directed by Dan Carracino and Kevin Hanlon. Starring Bill Wilson, Dr. Bob, Lois Wilson, Blake Evans, Ebby Thatcher. <http://bit.ly/reelbillclip>

**Unguarded**

*Unguarded* (2011) is an ESPN film. Chris Herren was a "can't miss" basketball superstar with the Denver Nuggets and his beloved Boston Celtics, until drug addiction eventually destroyed his career and almost his life. With the support of his wife and family, Herren struggles to conquer his demons and reclaim his life. Directed by Jonathan Hock. Starring Chris Herren, Rick Pitino and Bill Reynolds. <http://bit.ly/reelunguardedclip>

## **Beauty Mark**

Diane Israel, a Boulder, CO-based psychotherapist and former champion triathlete, talks candidly about her long and agonizing personal struggle with eating disorders and obsessive exercising, fearlessly confronting her own painful past as she attempts to come to terms with American culture's unhealthy fixation on self-destructive ideals of beauty and competitiveness. A film by Diane Israel, Carla Precht & Kathleen Man. <http://bit.ly/reelbeautymclip>

### ***Schedule of Films:***

11:00 - 11:15 am	<b>The Anonymous People</b> trailer (short)
11:15 am -12:30 pm	<b>Unguarded</b> (77 mins)
12:45 - 2:05 pm	<b>Lipstick and Liquor</b> (76 mins)
2:30 - 3:45 pm	<b>Secret World of Recovery</b> (68 mins)
4:00 - 5:30 pm	<b>Lost in Woonsocket</b> ( 81 mins)
6:45 - 7:45 pm	<b>Beauty Mark</b> ( 51 mins)
8:15 - 8:40 pm	<b>Spare Change</b> (20 mins) – Producer in Attendance
9 - 9:30 pm	<b>The Anonymous People</b> trailer - Director in Attendance
9:30 - 11:15 pm	<b>Bill W.</b> (104 mins)