



## **2010 Canada International Film Festival Vancouver Showcases Global Independent Film Producers**

**Vancouver, BC (March 2, 2009)** – The 2010 Canadian International Film Festival (CIFF) returns to Vancouver to screen indie films representing a variety of global filmmakers and the issues they explore. Over 25 international productions, including 9 Canadian films will be showcased at the Edgewater Casino's Stadium Club Theatre, from March 19 – 21, 2010.

This year's highlights include **Patient**, what appears to be a first date between a man and a woman quickly intensifies into a passionate negotiation between a mass murderer at a café shooting and the shrink sent to talk him down; Picking up where Al Gore's acclaimed film left off, **The Antarctica Challenge: A Global Warning**, is a documentary focusing on a "hot" topic: global warming, with rare footage of penguins in their hatching season, and vegetation growing in the world's largest desert; Finally, **Gangster Exchange**, is a hilarious action comedy surrounding the crazy antics of an entry level New York thug, trying to lug a 50-pound toilet made out of heroin, around the city.

CIFF is gaining a reputation for its wide variety of film genres, and has quickly garnered a respected following for its dynamic selections. To better showcase the films, CIFF has relocated to the Edgewater Casino. Located on Vancouver's iconic sea wall, the casino boasts three, 18ft high-definition, projection screens, and 290 stadium-style seats. The festival kicks off with a glitzy cocktail party and ends with an awards ceremony featuring juried and audience awarded prizing.

"For many of the film makers, this is the chance for them to see their work in true theatrical style," said Festival Director, William Young. "Unless you're producing a major motion picture the chances of seeing it on the big screen is virtually nonexistent. Film festivals like ours allow independent film makers to show their projects the way they are meant to be seen, and this year's venue insures there will be no compromise to that vision."

Last year, the CIFF Grand Jury/ Best Feature - award winning film was **A Line in the Sand** (USA), with **Something to Eat, A Place to Sleep & Someone Who Gives a Damn** (Canada) picking up the accolade for Best Humanitarian Film / Best Documentary Short.

CIFF has a special discount to Vancouver locals, offering 2-for-1 ticket pricing.

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**About the CIFF** [www.canadafilmmfestival.com](http://www.canadafilmmfestival.com)

Held each year in Vancouver, BC, the festival brings the very best of world cinema to Canada and has exhibited films from over 90 countries around the world. The 2010 Canada International Film Festival will be held Friday, March 19, to Sunday, March 21, at Edgewater Casino's Stadium Club Theatre. This year's program will showcase a wide variety of North American and international feature films as well as thought-provoking shorts, documentaries, music videos, animations, experimental films, student films, and more.

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Interviews available with: **William Young – Festival Director**

**Patient**

A man and a woman meet at a coffee shop for the first time. As if on an awkward date, they exchange timid pleasantries, however as their conversation unfolds the horrifying truth behind their meeting is revealed. One hour prior to their meeting, the man walked in and shot everyone in the shop. As police surround the building, the woman, a shrink, works to talk down the man before he pulls the trigger of the gun he holds in his hand...

Patient has been to festivals in Europe and USA, but ultimately it is a Canadian film, shot and produced here by a Canadian film crew, and we have never played in Canada yet.

**The Antarctica Challenge: A Global Warning**

A documentary that goes to the source of the climate change crisis: Antarctica. The film focuses on the new phenomenon of suicide among penguins, the imminent rise of the world's sea level and amazing footage of new vegetation growing in the world's largest desert. With hands-on exploration of the continent, its wildlife and the brave men and women who have given up the comforts of civilization in order to save it, this documentary explores the environmental challenges facing the frozen continent and, by extension, the world.

**Gangster Exchange**

Hiro is a cyber-punk with a simple mission: smuggle a toilet made of pure heroin to New York City. Marco's an entry-level thug with dreams of rising up the ranks. When a bloody New York mob war erupts Hiro and Marco snatch the toilet. Wounded, hunted and dragging a 50-pound toilet made of heroin; they race through sleazy alleyways, bouncer brawls, and sniper shoot-outs. On the run from every gang in town, they are thrown together in this bloody hilarious action comedy.

**Select CIFF 2010 Screenings – By Title**

(Full screening schedule available at: <http://tr.im/caniff> )

**Features:**

**Gangster Exchange** Saturday, March 20, 12:00pm, Edgewater Casino

**Shorts:**

**Patient** Saturday, March 20, 3:15 (Short film Block 1), Edgewater Casino

**Documentary:**

**The Antarctica Challenge: A Global Warning** Sunday, March 21, 6:05pm, Edgewater Casino