



"Empowering youth through multimedia"

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SPY HOP PRODUCTIONS PRODUCES 2006 SLAMDANCE FILM FESTIVAL TRAILER

Salt Lake City, UT – Spy Hop Productions has produced the 2006 trailer for the 12th annual Slamdance Film Festival. The trailer will screen before each film at the festival which runs January 19-27 in Park City and Sugar House.

Spy Hop Production's claymation instructor, Jarrett Reich, created the 2006 trailer with help from alumni Jayme Asbell-Luckau, Martin Moreno, and Leif McIlwaine. The project evolved from a \$99 Special into the trailer during a meeting in October between Co-founder and President of the Slamdance Film Festival, Peter Baxter, and representatives from Spy Hop. The one-minute trailer takes place in Mexico and features the *Mejicana Lucha Libre* wrestlers which are part of the festival theme this year. Production for the shoot lasted five weeks and was produced for less than \$99. Reich was determined to stay within the \$99 dollars the project would have been given as part of the \$99 Specials program that was initially discussed. Spy Hop's trailer will be seen by more than 20,000 people during the festival.

In 2004, Spy Hop Productions produced the \$99 Special, *The Rose Laundry*. This year Spy Hop accepted the challenge of producing three \$99 Specials for the festival and Slamdance provided filmmakers with \$99 each to produce the five minute shorts within 99 days. The three shorts are:

WHAT THE HELL?, Jack Allred
WAITING, Jeremy Nielsen and Josh Taeoalii
CLOCKWORK REDUX, Amy Caron

Producer, Jack Allred also made the \$99 Special *The Rose Laundry*. Producers Jeremy Nielsen and Josh Taeoalii's film from 2002, *TWICE TODAY* won the North Carolina Film Festival. Amy Caron is a local filmmaker and director of the Fear No Film Festival. Caron commented, "Making my \$99 was a fun process of discovery where I linked a pre-existing framework of theme, footage, and music to create a new piece of art that reflects current technology and society. I think of it as a bizarre extracted remake." The three films will premiere on January 27, 2006 at 3:00 pm at the Treasure Mountain Inn in Park City, Utah.

Representatives and student filmmakers from Spy Hop Productions will also participate in a Fireside Chat centered on emerging youth filmmakers and new distribution channels. The Fireside Chat will be held at Sugar Beats in Sugar House on Sunday, January 22 at 5:30 pm. A selection of Spy Hop Production's short films will be screened in conjunction with the panel discussion.

Spy Hop Productions is a non-profit youth media arts and education center dedicated to empowering youth (k-12) through multimedia, including documentary arts, film and video production, radio, audio engineering, web design, 3D graphics and animation. With the help of professional mentors, Spy Hop's young producers' works reached national audiences exceeding two million in 2004. Spy Hop has successfully served more than 10,000 young people along the Wasatch community since its inception in 1999.



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Started In 1995 by a group of upstart filmmakers, the Slamdance Film Festival is a year-round organization dedicated to emerging artists and their vision. Slamdance has established a unique reputation for premiering independent films by first-time directors with limited budgets. At the same time, the Festival has stayed true to its roots by being organized and programmed by active filmmakers. Slamdance films have been picked up for distribution, invited to festivals around the world, won Independent Spirit Awards, the Palme d'Or and an Academy Award, among many other accolades. Slamdance Film Festival alumni include "Memento" director Christopher Nolan (festival award winner "Following"), the Emmy Award winning Russo Brothers ("Pieces"), and "Monster's Ball" director Marc Forster (festival audience award winner "Loungers"). The 2005 Slamdance opening night film, "Mad Hot Ballroom," was acquired by Paramount Classics.

Slamdance has successfully established year-round ventures including the Screenplay Competition, Best Of Screenings in the U.S., Festival events in China and Poland, the Anarchy Online Film competition, the Dirty Dozen DVD Series (currently in its 7th volume), and short film productions dubbed \$99 Specials. In 2004, Slamdance launched a teleplay competition in conjunction with fox21, the Guerilla Gameworker Competition, and the Slamdance Media Group, a company comprised of distribution, development and talent-management units.

The 2006 Slamdance Film Festival is presented by Kodak and fox21.

Festival sponsors include Directors Guild of America, Maryland Film Commission, Andrew Lauren Productions, All Seasons Resorts, Corazon Tequila, Dos Equis, Dr. Martens, PopCap Games, Southwest Airlines, Timbuk2 and X-Mission. Additional sponsors are listed on the Slamdance website at www.slamdance.com/sponsors/.

PRESS CREDENTIALS:

Accreditation forms are available on <http://www.slamdance.com/festivalpress>

SCREENING TICKETS:

Screening tickets are available at <http://www.slamdance.com/2006/festival>

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