

From: [Film1](#)
To:
CC:
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Attachments:



NEWS:

CLEARWATER BEACH HOSTED FIRST-EVER LIVE BROADCAST OF A&E'S *CRISS ANGEL*

St. Petersburg/Clearwater, FL – All eyes were on “America’s Best Beach” as world-renowned illusionist Criss Angel performed his most daring stunt yet: escaping the implosion of the historic Spyglass Resort, on the first-ever live episode of *Criss Angel Mindfreak*, which aired on A&E at 10PM EDT on Wednesday, July 30.

The implosion of the famed, nine-story, 64-room Spyglass Resort will make way for the \$100 million, 250-room Clearwater Beach Resort and Hotel. The resort is part of a \$1 billion redevelopment of Clearwater, including the recently completed \$30 million Beach Walk pedestrian thoroughfare.

The hour-long episode featured shots of Clearwater and the surrounding area, including two beaches voted as America’s best in 2008: Caladesi Island, topping the 2008 annual ranking by Dr. Stephen Leatherman (a.k.a. “Dr. Beach”), and Fort De Soto, ranked tops by TripAdvisor, the world’s largest online travel community.

“DIGITAL GRAFFITI” FESTIVAL DRAWS ENTRIES FROM AROUND THE GLOBE

Alys Beach, Florida – (July 28, 2008) – A unique new event called “Digital Graffiti” is being hosted by Alys Beach this Labor Day Weekend to celebrate some of the world’s most talented digital artists.

The deadline for entries was July 11th, and event organizers say that they were overwhelmed by the nearly 150 entries they received from all around the world.

Sometimes referred to as “Photon Bombing” or “Guerilla Projection,” underground artists around the globe have started using the latest technologies to project their unique works of art onto skyscrapers and other urban structures, as a means of artistic expression. But no outdoor event has ever been organized before to celebrate these talented artists. The artwork will be projected onto the famous white walls of Alys Beach.

To help attract artists to the Emerald Coast, Alys Beach announced \$6,500 in cash prizes, including a \$2,500 “Best of Show” award, and a \$1,000 “Best Local Artist” award sponsored by 30A.com. A special \$1,000 prize will also be awarded to the best entry with a “green” or environmental theme.

The festival will be hosted by several celebrity and industry judges, including Alan Hunter, MTV’s very first “VJ” and Co-Founder of the Sidewalk Moving Picture Festival; Terry Slaughter, President of the award-winning Slaughter Group, a strategic design and branding firm based in Birmingham, Alabama; Brett Phares, a professor of interactive media at Marist College in New York; and Warren Heaton, an award-winning digital artist, whose film, video and interactive media projects include such clients as Adobe, Microsoft, and Walt Disney Imagineering.

The festival will be held on Saturday, August 30th (Labor Day Weekend), from 7pm until 11pm. In the event of inclement weather, the event will be held on Sunday, August 31st.

For more information about Digital Graffiti at Alys Beach, please visit www.alybeach.com/DG. Individuals or businesses willing to loan a projector for this one-evening event are encouraged to call 1-866-481-8387 or email events@alybeach.com.

THE FLORIDA MOTION PICTURE AND TELEVISION ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENT

Florida actor James Best will receive the Florida Motion Picture and Television Association’s Lifetime Achievement Award at the association’s 19th Annual Crystal Reel Awards Gala on August 23 at Plant City’s Red Rose Inn & Suites.

Best was born in Kentucky and grew up in Indiana. While he is widely known for his portrayal of Roscoe P. Coltrane in the long running "Dukes of Hazzard" television series, he's been acting professionally since he was cast in a European tour of "My Sister Eileen" immediately after World War II. The play was produced and directed by Arthur Penn who would later go on to direct Best in "Left Handed Gun" with Paul Newman. At the end of the tour, Best returned to New York for further stage work.

Since then, he has appeared in hundreds of films, television and stage productions. His first "credited" film was 1950's "Comanche Territory" in which he played "Sam." His film credits also include, five films with Jimmy Stewart; "The Cain Mutiny", with Humphrey Bogart; five westerns with Audie Murphy; "Ride Lonesome" with Randolph Scott; "Firecreek" with Henry Fonda and Jimmy Stewart; and Norman Mailer's classic, "The Naked and the Dead", "Three on a Couch" with Jerry Lewis; Sammy Fuller's classic "Shock Corridor" and "Verboten", "Cimarron Kid", "First to Fight", "Seminole" with Rock Hudson and Anthony Quinn: multiple Academy Award nominee "Sounder" and three films with Burt Reynolds, including "Gator" on which he served as Associate Producer and script writer. Also, "The End" which he also helped write and he directed while Reynolds was on camera, and "Hooper" in which he co-starred and did the re-writes on the script.

He and his wife Dorothy moved to Florida in 1987, and he taught on campus at the University of Central Florida. He was also appointed to the Advisory Council for the Motion Picture, Television, and Recording Industry of Florida. He picked up his own Crystal Reel award in 1992 for Best Actor in a Dramatic Series, for an episode of "In the Heat of the Night" with Carroll O'Connor. The Crystal Reel Awards annually recognizes Florida films and filmmakers at a dinner and awards program. This year's event will be emceed by Tampa area writer and television personality Bill Murphy.

For details and reservations, contact chairman Jerry Alan at 813-334-1535. www.fmpta.org

CALL FOR ENTRIES: THE MIAMI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

The Miami International Film Festival (MIFF), a Miami Dade College (MDC) cultural experience, opens its submissions on August 1st 2008. The festival will take place March 6 – 15, 2009.

The Miami International Film Festival brings the best of world cinema to South Florida and plays a leading role in maintaining and further enriching its film culture. MIFF's unique geographical and cultural position in Miami makes it an ideal premiere venue for the exhibition of international and US films, with a special focus on Ibero-American cinema.

The Festival has presented films from more than 60 countries, including 200 East Coast, U.S. and World Premieres, scores of Oscar winners and nominees, and many international prizewinners.

- More than 75,000 people attended the Festival in 2008
- In addition, more than 350 filmmakers, producers, talent, and industry representatives from around the world attended the 2008 Festival to introduce their work to Miami audiences and industry professionals
- The 2008 Festival held more than 250 screenings, including features, shorts, Outreach and press

PRIZES

A Knight Grand Jury Prize of \$25,000 will be awarded to each of the winning directors of the Dramatic Features - World Cinema Competition and the Dramatic Features - Ibero-American Cinema Competition.

A Grand Jury Prize of \$25,000 for the Documentary Features - World & Ibero-American Competition and a Grand Jury Prize of \$2,500 for the Short Films Competition will also be awarded to the winning directors in each category.

A screenwriting award within the Ibero-American Cinema Competition category will be added to the slate this year. The Jordan Alexander Ressler Award will be presented to the winning screenwriter, and a juried prize of \$5,000 will be awarded.

Submission deadlines and fees are as follows:

- Early Submissions (Aug. 1 - Sept. 15): Features \$35, Shorts \$20
- Final Submissions (Sept. 15 - Oct. 15): Features \$45, Shorts \$25

Florida Filmmakers pay the Early Submission fees through the final submissions deadline.

Films must have been completed after January 1, 2008. Films must not have been publicly broadcast or exhibited commercially in the U.S. prior to the Festival.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: 2009 GASPARILLA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

The Gasparilla International Film Festival (GIFF) is now accepting submissions for the 3rd annual Festival, taking place over 10 days from Thursday, February 26th- Saturday, March 7th, 2009. The Fest is Tampa Bay's largest independent film festival!

GIFF is returning this year bigger and better than ever, with 5 separate screening venues in Tampa and St. Petersburg, and over 120 films on display.

Planners of the event have expanded the scope of the Festival beyond the Americas by becoming truly international and considering

submissions from around the world. GIFF will maintain its popular Cuban sidebar- a nod to Tampa's Cuban heritage and one of the most exciting elements of the fest. Additionally, organizers are introducing a separate documentary section. A section dedicated solely to Florida film entries is sure to receive plenty of attention. Also returning, is the "Fun and Fear" category, which is an outrageous combination of both horror and comedy. The section is one of the fest's most popular and in 2008 attracted legendary Filmmakers Hershell Gordon Lewis and David Friedman and their internationally recognized and historic cult classic "Blood Feast."

By virtue of doubling the length of the Festival, GIFF will be offering more this year in the way of filmmaker panels, networking events with potential distributors and filmgoers and, as always, plenty of fun and sun! Many of the films featured at past Gasparilla International Film Festivals have gone onto both television and cinematic release.

Filmmakers wishing to participate in the festival should submit their film prior to December 1, 2008 by entering online at <http://www.withoutabox.com/login/5440>, or visiting the fest's website at <http://www.gasparillafilmfestival.com> for a complete listing of all available categories.

ABC NEWS RECOMMENDS ST. AUGUSTINE AS AN "INTERNATIONAL" DESTINATION FOR AMERICANS

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla. - ABC News' *Good Morning America* listed St. Augustine as their number one selection of places Americans could go "to feel as though they had jetted across the Atlantic without breaking the bank." Titled "Exotic Vacations on the Cheap: No Passport Required," the nationally-broadcast news segment was prepared in cooperation with *Travel + Leisure* magazine and was designed to show Americans that, even in tough economic times, they can experience European atmosphere without leaving the borders of the USA or spending a fortune.

"For a Spanish vacation without buying a plane ticket to Madrid, try St. Augustine, Florida," said ABC News. "It's the nation's oldest city and is filled with Spanish-colonial architecture. It feels like Old World Spain complete with cobblestone streets, courtyards and an old colonial quarter." The segment went on to suggest that for the complete Spanish experience, viewers should stay at the Casa Monica Hotel - "a Moorish revival castle located in the heart of St. Augustine and is a majestic 1888 landmark." The segment noted the hotel "feels so much like the real thing" it was selected by the King and Queen of Spain on their most recent visit.

Each morning, *Good Morning America* is watched by nearly five million Americans. To see the entire segment, go to: <http://abcnews.go.com/video/playerIndex?id=5364614>

For more information on vacation opportunities in St. Augustine, Ponte Vedra & The Beaches, call the Visitors and Convention Bureau at 1.800.653.2489 or visit www.Getaway4Florida.com.

SUNDANCE DOCUMENTARY FILM PROGRAM AND SKOLL FOUNDATION ANNOUNCE STORIES OF CHANGE: SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN FOCUS THROUGH DOCUMENTARY

The Sundance Institute's [Documentary Film Program](#) and the [Skoll Foundation](#) have launched Stories of Change, a three-year initiative designed to explore how independent feature-length documentary film can advance knowledge about social entrepreneurship.

As part of this effort, the Stories of Change Fund will consider independent feature-length documentary projects in all categories of development, production, and post-production. Completed films are not eligible. Film projects must be completed by 2010. Grant awards will be made on a case-by-case basis and may range up to \$150,000US per film.

Grants will be awarded based on the following criteria: all films must highlight and/or include a contemporary social entrepreneur, his or her organization, and focus on an issue(s) in which the entrepreneur is seeking systemic and positive change; be feature length (over 65 minutes); be independently produced, with creative control held by the producing/directing team; and display directorial vision/aesthetic and have the potential for theatrical release.

Visit the Sundance Institute Web site for complete program information and application procedures: <http://www.sundance.org/skoll/>.

FLORIDA ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

FILM FESTS KEEP TAMPA BAY ON THE BIG SCREEN

[Tampa Bay Business Journal](#) © July 25, 2008

The Bay area has hosted only a handful of feature film productions, such as 2004's "The Punisher," and now diminished state incentives present an obstacle that may make it harder than ever to draw the attention of Hollywood's heavy hitters. But the continuing growth of local film festivals has helped bolster the production identity of Tampa Bay and filled gaps.

GAY FILM FEST FIRES DIRECTOR

[MiamiHerald.com](#) © July 25, 2008

The Miami Gay & Lesbian Film Festival -- about \$50,000 in debt -- on Friday fired its flamboyant festival director, Carol Coombes.

FULL SAIL UNIVERSITY IS NAMED "SCHOOL/COLLEGE OF THE YEAR" BY THE FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF POSTSECONDARY

SCHOOLS & COLLEGES

PR Web © July 26, 2008

Today, in an awards ceremony in Aventura, FL, Full Sail University (www.fullsail.edu) was named "School/College of the Year" by the Florida Association of Postsecondary Schools & Colleges (FAPSC).

FLORIDA'S BUDGET SHORTFALL COULD CURB TV, FILM PRODUCTIONS HERE

Tampabay.com © July 27, 2008

Florida's motion picture and television industry took a financial hit when the state's leaner budget went into effect. As a result, Hollywood may take its lights, cameras and action somewhere else.

TODOBEBE'S NEW FAMILY TV SHOW DEBUTS AS #1 SHOW IN THE US AMONG ALL ADULTS 18-34

PR Newswire © July 30, 2008

MIAMI -- Todobebe, Inc., the leading media company dedicated to the adventures of parenting, announced that "Viva la Familia! de Todobebe", its new TV show for mothers and young families, debuted Friday night July 25th in Prime Time delivering 3.3 million viewers 2+ and made Univision the #1 network for the 10pm ET/PT (9pm Central) hour among all Adults 18-34, Adults 18-24, and Persons 12-34.

GETTING TO KNOW "LOVERS AND FRIENDS"

AfterEllen.com © July 30, 2008

The Lovers and Friends Show, Johnson's brainchild, premiered online in January. Set in South Florida, it follows the everyday drama-ridden lives of a core group of six multiethnic lesbians of color and their friends and lovers.

TRINITY FAMILY'S HOUSE HUNT WILL BE ON TV

Tampabay.com © July 31, 2008

The pair will star on *House Hunters*, a show on HGTV that chronicles home searches of real people all over the country. The episode will air at 10 p.m. Aug. 14.

LEVY CO. MASSACRE GETS SPOTLIGHT IN KOPPEL FILM

Gainesville Sun, FL © Aug 1, 2008

Last week, in the same Archer farmhouse, Jenkins told the story to Ted Koppel, who will in turn tell the story to the world on a Discovery Channel documentary scheduled to air sometime in September.

FULL SAIL UNIVERSITY TO CO-PRESENT GAME DESIGN CLASSES DURING THE ORLANDO SCIENCE CENTER'S SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM

PR Web © Aug 1, 2008

Winter Park, FL -- From August 11-15, 2008, Full Sail University will co-present game design classes from 9 AM-4:15 PM for students in grades seven through nine at the Orlando Science Center (OSC) as part of their School Break Camps Program.

ARTICLES ABOUT THE COMPETITION:

LACK OF FILM INCENTIVES IN CALIFORNIA NOT A DRAW

Hollywood Reporter © July 24, 2008

No matter how much executives may like their projects to shoot on the lot or at least within the Los Angeles area, they can't resist a bargain, and these days good deals are everywhere to be found, with some 40 states offering film and TV production incentives -- including New York, which in April boosted its tax credit on below-the-line expenses from 10% to 30%.

FILMMAKING ADDS \$4.5 MILLION TO MEMPHIS, TENN., ECONOMY

RedOrbit © July 25, 2008

Companies producing movies, TV shows, music videos, corporate videos and television commercials spent \$4.5 million in the Memphis area during the past year, according to a report released Wednesday by the Memphis & Shelby County Film and Television Commission.

NEW ORLEANS GETS ANOTHER FILM

PRLog.Org © July 27, 2008

On the Lot Productions, LLC has great intentions to produce more television and film projects in the New Orleans area taking full advantage of the Louisiana tax incentive program that can compete in today's film market.

STRIKE THREAT STALLS CT FILMS

Hartford Business © July 28, 2008

The state's budding film industry is taking a hit as major motion picture producers essentially shut down film production in preparation for a possible actors' strike.

WILL HOLLYWOOD'S SPOTLIGHT STAY ON MASSACHUSETTS?

Boston Channel.com © July 28, 2008

Hollywood's spotlight on Massachusetts has never been brighter --- 14 movies shot locally in the past 12 months. Who doesn't love it?

FILM IS HERE NOW, BUT WILL IT STAY?

Model D -,MI © July 29, 2008

There's debate over the film incentive packages and whether or not it was too much. Additionally, other businesses felt slighted saying, "where are our incentives?" Regardless of the bickering, the incentives seem to be working.

AFTER THREE MONTHS, FEEDBACK ON FILM INCENTIVES MOSTLY POSITIVE

Petoskey News-Review, MI © July 29, 2008

Only three months old and the Michigan film incentive bill package is drawing considerable attention from the movie industry. Sen. Jason Allen, R-Traverse City, hosted a hearing on the pros and cons of the 16 bills, which offer the largest tax credits in the country to the film industry, looking for local feedback on the burgeoning program.

UTAH SEEKING BIGGER MOVIE PRODUCTIONS

KSL-TV, UT © July 29, 2008

The Utah Film Commission wants to attract some bigger movie productions to the state, and Gov. Huntsman wants the Legislature to help out.

EXPANDED FILM INCENTIVE GAINING MOMENTUM

KCPW, UT © July 30, 2008

One bill file for next year has already been opened to boost tax incentives for films shot in Utah. Democratic Representative Karen Morgan will sponsor the bill, and Marshall Moore, director of the Utah Film Commission, says more are on the way.

COMMON GUIDELINES FOR INCENTIVE

Screen Africa © July 31, 2008

At a workshop held at the Durban International Film Festival (DIFF) on 29 July, it was revealed that public broadcaster SABC wishes to engage with the Department of Trade & Industry (DTI), the National Film and Video Foundation (NFVF) and the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) in order to come up with a common set of guidelines relating to the DTI's recently launched South African Film and Television Production and Co-production Incentive.

GENERAL ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

SENATE BILL SEEKS TO STOP RUNAWAYS

Variety © July 29, 2008

A bipartisan Senate bill introduced Tuesday is intended to curb runaway film production by increasing the extent of the tax deductions that producers can take.

SAG CONTINUES TO GRANT WAIVERS

Variety, CA © July 30, 2008

With SAG's contract stalemate continuing, the [Screen Actors Guild](#) has granted more than 100 waivers to indie feature films over the past month, pushing the total to 620.

2008 AD BOOM NOW OFFICIALLY A BUST

TVNEWSDAY © July 30, 2008

As second quarter numbers roll in, earlier projections of a robust year thanks to Olympic and political ad windfalls are being drastically recalculated. The problem is dramatically lower core ad spenders, especially automakers and dealers.

STUDIOS GO TO WORK DESPITE STRIKE TALK

Variety, CA © July 31, 2008

After taking much of the summer off in the hopes of avoiding any more labor strife, the film biz is planning to get back to work after Labor Day.

Statewide Events:

2008 TAMPA - ST. PETERSBURG 48 HOUR FILM PROJECT AWARDS PARTY

The Awards Party for the 2008 Tampa – St. Petersburg 48 Hour Film Project will take place at Nova 535 on August 8th.

Nova 535
535 Dr Martin Luther King Jr. Street North
St. Petersburg, Florida, 33701

More details to come soon. Email Coco or Kerri with questions: coco@48hourfilm.com or kerri@48hourfilm.com.

FEATURE FILM FULL GROWN MEN DEBUTS IN FLORIDA THIS WEEKEND

Full Grown Men (which filmed in Florida) opens this weekend in 4 Florida locales (Miami, Miami Beach, Key West and St. Pete's) and was extended for another week in San Francisco after a great turnout last weekend! We're hoping for extended runs in Florida as well, so please come out to see the film and tell your friends about this chance to catch a beautiful locally-shot film on the big screen.

But don't take our word for it. If you haven't seen the excellent review in the San Francisco Chronicle by noted critic Mick LaSalle [click here](#).

Please join Director David Munro this weekend at the following screenings, where he'll be doing an audience Q&A with some of the Florida cast and crew:

Cosford Cinema, Coral Gables, Fri, Aug 1, 7pm
Miami Beach Cinematheque, Fri, Aug 1, 8:30pm
Tropic Cinema, Key West, Sat, Aug 2, 6:15 pm
Beach Theatre, St. Pete Beach, Sat, Aug 2, 8pm (by video)

For info on venues, times and tickets please visit our website and go to the screenings page: www.fullgrownmenthemovie.com

Xandra will be doing Q&A's in SF @ the Fri 7pm & Sat 5& 7pm shows, where we're hoping for another strong weekend. We are also opening today in Reno, Nevada and Friday in Athens, Ga.

www.fullgrownmenthemovie.com, www.myspace.com/fullgrownmenthemovie

Please Note: If you have a press release or an educational event, you can post it on our website www.filminflorida.com. The Governor's Office of Film & Entertainment reserves the right to edit or exclude any content not deemed appropriate.

If you wish to be removed from this newsletter please reply with "**Remove**" in the subject line

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