



PRESS RELEASE

For more information, contact:
Kelly Marshall
Sidewalk Moving Picture Festival
205 / 540.7385
kelly@sidewalkfest.com
WWW.SIDEWALKFEST.COM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 8, 2006

SIDEWALK ANNOUNCES “HEAVENS FALL” AS CLOSING NIGHT FILM

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. – HEAVENS FALL, produced in Monroeville and Montgomery, Alabama, will close the 8th annual Sidewalk Moving Picture Festival on Sunday, September 24 at 5 pm at the Alabama Theatre, according to festival director and co-founder Erik Jambor.

HEAVENS FALL, written and directed by Terry Green, takes place in the spring of 1931 when nine black hoboes were pulled off an Alabama freight train and arrested for allegedly raping two young white women in a gondola car. Ranging in ages from twelve to twenty years, they were quickly tried and sentenced to the electric chair. News of their convictions spread and the plight of the Scottsboro Boys became a ‘cause celebre’ that fueled the fire of socialism worldwide, forcing an appeal to the United States Supreme Court and resulting in new trials for all nine defendants. New Yorker Samuel Leibowitz, a savvy and self-assured defense lawyer with an impressive string of courtroom victories, agreed to represent the accused at their retrials in Decatur, Alabama. His journey into the Deep South symbolized the polarity of the times and set in motion a legal battle that ultimately changed the course of American jurisprudence. Above all, it changed Sam Leibowitz. Fighting for a cause he believed to be just, Leibowitz exposed himself to a society impelled by long cherished ideals and values.

Starring Academy Award® winning actor Timothy Hutton (ORDINARY PEOPLE, KINSEY), Academy-Award® nominee David Strathairn (GOOD NIGHT GOOD LUCK, LIMBO), Bill Sage (AMERICAN PSYCHO), Leelee Sobieski (NEVER BEEN KISSED, EYES WIDE SHUT) and Azura Skye (The Minor Accomplishments of Jackie Woodman, THE WENDALL BAKER STORY), HEAVENS FALL is the first theatrical feature about the Scottsboro Boys.

"We're excited to return to Alabama for the Alabama premiere of HEAVENS FALL," Green said. "It's only fitting that a film dealing with a delicate chapter in the state's history be screened at the state's most prestigious venue and supported by the socially conscious directors at the Sidewalk Moving Picture Festival."

Green and producer Anna Marie Crovetti and star Azura Skye will participate in a free panel discussion as part of Sidewalk SideTalks at 2 pm at the Harbert Center on Sunday, September 24 titled: "**Alabama in a Hurricane: Shooting HEAVENS FALL**". The film was shooting in Monroeville, Alabama when hurricane Ivan struck the area. The panel will discuss how the project came together, and how the hurricane impacted the production and the people involved.

The 2006 Sidewalk Moving Picture Festival is set for September 22-24 in downtown Birmingham's historic Theatre District. Opening Night tickets (\$10 in advance / \$13 at the door) and Weekend Passes (\$25 / \$20 for Sidewalk members and students with valid ID) are available by calling 1-800-590-4043 or online at www.sidewalkfest.com. Single Film Tickets will be available for \$7 each (or three for \$15) during the festival weekend. Additional information is available online at the festival website at www.sidewalkfest.com.

The 2006 Sidewalk Moving Picture Festival is sponsored by Bridgeport Brewing Co., EBSCO Industries, Black and White, Alabama Power Foundation, WBRC Fox 6, Charter Communications, Bright House Networks, al.com, Children's Hospital and Birmingham magazine and is made possible, in part, by the Jefferson County Commission through the Jefferson County Community Arts Fund administered by the Cultural Alliance of Greater Birmingham.

The Sidewalk Moving Picture Festival is a project of the Alabama Moving Image Association, Inc., a publicly supported 501(c)(3) non-profit organization created to inspire, encourage and support films and filmmaking in Alabama.

#