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NEWS RELEASE #6

TIFF ANNOUNCES MIDNIGHT MADNESS LINEUP

Toronto – The Toronto International Film Festival announces its complete 22nd **Midnight Madness** programme, a Festival favourite drawing legions of devoted fans for manic midnight screenings of wild and wicked films for the witching hour. Midnight Madness continues to offer films that you might not expect in a festival context, an eccentric mix of the weird and the wonderful, and this year's features include crazed animation, chick fights, zombies, vampires, a possessed cheerleader, exhilarating martial arts and more!

"This year's Midnight Madness lineup is a showcase of some of the most highly anticipated thrillers and chillers of the year," said Colin Geddes, TIFF programmer. "Bloody proms and zombies seem to pop up as main themes, but I've made sure to inject some truly bizarre action into the mix with animated plastic toys from Belgium and Russ Meyer inspired fighting femme fatales."

The Midnight Madness Package is \$156.51, and available to students and seniors for \$100 (prices do not include GST, building-fund fee and service charges). Other ticket packages for the Festival are also available for purchase by cash, debit or Visa[®]. Purchase online at tiff.net/thefestival, by phone at 416-968-FILM or 1-877-968-FILM (Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., closed weekends and holidays) or in person at the Festival Box Office at Nathan Phillips Square (Box Office hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., seven days a week), located at 100 Queen Street West, in the white tent, west of the square. The 34th Toronto International Film Festival runs September 10 to 19, 2009.

MIDNIGHT MADNESS

Midnight Madness Opening Night

Jennifer's Body Karyn Kusama, USA

World Premiere

Jennifer's Body tells the story of small-town high-school student Jennifer (Megan Fox) who is possessed by a hungry demon and transitions from being "high school evil"—gorgeous (and doesn't she know it), stuck up and ultra-attitudinal—to the real deal: evil/evil. The glittering beauty becomes a pale and sickly creature jonesing for a meaty snack, and guys who never stood a chance with the heartless babe take on new lustre in the light of her insatiable appetite. Meanwhile, Jennifer's best friend, Needy (Amanda Seyfried), long relegated to living in Jennifer's shadow, must step-up to protect the town's young men, including her nerdy boyfriend Chip (Johnny Simmons). Written and executive produced by Oscar[®]-winner Diablo Cody (*Juno*).

A Town Called Panic Stéphane Aubier and Vincent Patar, Belgium/Luxembourg/France

North American Premiere

An outlandish animation style captures the absurd wit and surreal adventures of plastic toys Cowboy, Indian and Horse.

Bitch Slap Rick Jacobson, USA

World Premiere

In this campy action comedy from the creators of *Xena* and *Hercules*, three hot-blooded women try to uncover some booty in the desert using feminine charms, fists and machine guns.

Daybreakers Michael Spierig and Peter Spierig, Australia/USA

World Premiere

Ethan Hawke, Willem Dafoe and Sam Neill star in this sci-fi horror about a future populated by vampires where humans are the minority.

2 Carlton Street, Suite 1600 Toronto ON Canada M5B 1J3 | Reception: 416-967-7371
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Bell Lightbox

future home of TIFF

George A. Romero's Survival of the Dead George A. Romero, Canada

World Premiere

Master director George A. Romero returns to his world of the undead, this time pitting two feuding clans in the middle of the fallout of a zombie epidemic.

The Loved Ones Sean Byrne, Australia

International Premiere

A troubled teen's prom dreams are shattered by a series of painful events that take place under the mirrored disco ball, involving syringes, nails, power drills and a secret admirer in this wild mash-up of *Pretty in Pink* and *Misery*.

Ong Bak 2: The Beginning Tony Jaa, Panna Rittikrai, Thailand

Canadian Premiere

Martial-arts superstar Tony Jaa stars in and directs this epic tale of revenge set hundreds of years in the past. Featuring a huge cast and hordes of elephants, this prequel takes Jaa's skills to the next level, showcasing him as a master of a wide range of martial-arts styles – while proving him to be a promising director as well.

[REC] 2 Jaume Balagueró, Paco Plaza, Spain

North American Premiere

In the follow-up to the acclaimed *[REC]*, a SWAT team enters the old apartment to control an epidemic with terrifying results.

Solomon Kane Michael J. Bassett, United Kingdom

World Premiere

From Robert E. Howard, the legendary creator of *Conan*, comes this tale of a savage mercenary in sixteenth-century England who owes the devil his soul and seeks to redeem himself by fighting evil.

Symbol Hitoshi Matsumoto, Japan

International Premiere

Japanese comedy superstar Hitoshi Matsumoto (*DAINIPPONJIN*) stars in and directs this absurd and outlandish comedy about a man trying to escape a unique dilemma.

Midnight Madness is made possible through the generous sponsorship of Cineplex Entertainment LP.

About Bell Lightbox: Currently under construction, Bell Lightbox, a breathtaking five-storey complex located in downtown Toronto, will provide a permanent home for film lovers to celebrate cinema from around the world and will propel TIFF forward as an international leader in film culture. Designed by innovative architecture firm KPMB, Bell Lightbox's fluid structure encourages exploration, movement and play. The campaign to build Bell Lightbox is generously supported by founding sponsor Bell, the Government of Canada and the Province of Ontario, the King and John Festival Corporation—consisting of the Reitman family and the Daniels Corporation—RBC as major sponsor and official bank, Visa, the Copyright Collective of Canada, NBC Universal Canada, the Allan Slaight Family, the Brian Linehan Charitable Foundation and CIBC. The Board of Directors, staff and many generous individuals and corporations have also contributed to the campaign. For more information on the Bell Lightbox campaign, visit belllightbox.ca.

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For further information, contact the Communications Department at 416-934-3200 or by email at proffice@tiff.net.