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**THE 13TH ANNUAL URBANWORLD FILM FESTIVAL
ANNOUNCES F. GARY GRAY'S "LAW ABIDING CITIZEN"
AS THE 2009 OPENING NIGHT FILM**

**Official Selections for America's Largest Multicultural Film Festival
To Be Presented in New York City on September 23 – 27, 2009**

NEW YORK, NY (September 3, 2009) – The 13th Annual Urbanworld Film Festival, presented by BET Networks, today announced the opening night selection of Overture Films' dramatic thriller LAW ABIDING CITIZEN, starring Gerard Butler, Academy Award® winner Jamie Foxx and Academy Award nominee Viola Davis under the direction of F. Gary Gray. The star-studded event will be held on Wednesday, September 23, 2009 in the heart of Manhattan with principal cast and director in attendance. The nation's largest competitive multicultural film festival will run through September 27.

Urbanworld also proudly announced the 2009 official selections for the narrative feature, documentary feature, short documentary and short narrative categories. The festival will screen 68 films this year. Closing night and spotlight screenings will be announced September 9.

Highlights of the Urbanworld 2009 official selections include Academy Award nominee Sophie Okonedo in Anthony Fabian's SKIN, Chris Rock's highly-anticipated documentary GOOD HAIR, four-time Emmy® nominee CCH Pounder and Nicki Michaeux in Maria Govan's RAIN; and five films selected in conjunction with Great Britain's B3 Media for the inaugural "UK in Focus" sidebar.

"We're thrilled to open Urbanworld 2009 with F. Gary Gray's latest work and welcome this talented director's return to the festival thirteen years after our inaugural presentation of his classic film, SET IT OFF," explained festival founder Stacy Spikes. "LAW ABIDING CITIZEN kicks off a dynamic slate of films that reflect the energy and elasticity of urban and ethnic cinema. We encourage film lovers everywhere to join us for a four-day celebration of the best and brightest in multicultural moviemaking."

Urbanworld Film Festival 2009 Roster

Opening Night:

LAW ABIDING CITIZEN directed by F. Gary Gray

Narrative Features include 12 films:

BLUE directed by Ryan Mingingham
DON'T LET ME DROWN directed by Cruz Angeles
HUSH directed by Mark Tonderai (UK IN FOCUS)
JUST ANOTHER DAY directed by Peter Spierer
MISSISSIPPI DAMNED directed by Tina Mabry
RAIN directed by Maria Govan
SALUD directed by Cesar De Leon
SHIFTY directed by Eran Creevy (UK IN FOCUS)
SKIN directed by Anthony Fabian
THE GOOD NEIGHBOR POLICY directed by Edgar P. Davis
TOE TO TOE directed by Emily Abt
TURISTAS directed by Alicia Scherson

Documentary Features include 17 films

AMERICANA directed by Topaz Adizes
BAMA GIRL directed by Rachel Goslins
BURMA VJ directed by Anders Ostergaard
CRIPS AND BLOODS: MADE IN AMERICA directed by Stacy Peralta
EVENTUAL SALVATION directed by Dee Rees
GOOD HAIR directed by Jeff Stilson
MRS. GOUNDO'S DAUGHTER directed by Barbara Attie, Janet Goldwater
OFF AND RUNNING directed by Sharese Bullock
P-STAR RISING directed by Gabriel Noble
PRESSURE COOKER directed by Jennifer Grausman
SAMO: ART & INFLUENCE OF JEAN-MICHEL BASQUIAT by Bethany Ward-Lawe
SAY MY NAME directed by Nirit Peled
SHOOTING STARS directed by Axel Ebermann and Daniel Frei
STILL BILL directed by Alex Vlack, Damani Baker
THE LOST SON OF HAVANA directed by Jon Hock
THE VISITORS directed by Melis Birder
WHAT'S ON YOUR PLATE? directed by Catherine Gund

Short Documentaries include 5 films:

A SENTENCE APART directed by Theo Rigby
A SONG FOR OURSELVES directed by Tadashi Nakamura
BRONX PRINCESS directed by Yoni Brook and Musa Syeed
HOODS TO WOODS directed by Brian Paupaw
KEEP ON STEPPIN' directed by Christine Noschese

Short Films include 29 films:

A BARBER'S TALE directed by Nelson George
AMAZON WOMEN directed by Kiara C. Jones
BIG BLACK GOOD MAN directed by Usame Tunagar
BROTHERS INCORPORATED directed by Michael Johnson
ENTER THE PREACHER directed by Paulette James (UK IN FOCUS)
FATHER'S DAY directed by Brian Rolling
FRENCH FOR FOREIGNERS directed by Kartik Singh
GRACE directed by Alrick Brown
HAIR WE ARE directed by Daniella Belchner (UK IN FOCUS)
HOPE directed by Justin Foran
HUG directed by Khary Jones
IN THE WIND directed by Marty Papazian
LA OPERACIONE directed by Victor Cruz
LIFE ON EARTH directed by Jeffrey A. Keith
LOCKS directed by Ryan Coogler
MANALI CREAM directed by Navdeep Kandola (UK IN FOCUS)
MARIACHI directed by Elena Greenlee
MEDICINE MAN directed by Himkar Tak
NUEVA YORK directed by Manolo Celi
OSVALDO'S directed by Randy Wilkins
OUT OF THE DARKNESS directed by Nikki V. Roberts
POPOUS PANE & THE KIDS HE LOVES TO HATE directed by Derrick Anthony
PRODUCTION directed by Lenny Payan
SATURDAY MORNING BLUES directed by Yvonne Michelle Shirley
SECOND CHANCES directed by Moses Halley of Films by Youth Inside
THE FALL directed by Aaron Wallace
THE ROE EFFECT directed by Kiel Adrian Scott
TRECE ANOS directed by Topaz Adizes
WING IT directed by Maria Quintana

About Urbanworld

Urbanworld was launched in August 1997 with 35 films, by founder Stacy Spikes, a former Miramax executive. BET Networks returns as the 2009 Presenting Sponsor. HBO continues support as the Founding Sponsor. Principal Sponsors include ESPN, Black Enterprise, Essence, Giant, HoneyMag.com, BlackPlanet.com, and MiGente.com. Benefactor Sponsors include Warner Bros., Stella Artois, Directors Guild of America - New York, Tekserve, AMC Theatres and UrbanBeautyCollective.com.

About BET Networks

BET Networks, a division of Viacom Inc. (NYSE: VIA, VIA.B), is the nation's leading provider of quality entertainment, music, news and public affairs television programming for the African-American audience. The primary BET channel reaches more than 98 million households and can be seen in the United States, Canada, the Caribbean, the United Kingdom and sub-Saharan Africa. BET is the dominant African-American consumer brand with a diverse group of businesses extensions: BET.com, a leading Internet destination for Black entertainment, music, culture, and news; BET Digital Networks - BET J, BET Gospel and BET Hip Hop, attractive alternatives for cutting-edge entertainment tastes; BET Home Entertainment, a collection of BET-branded offerings for the home environment including DVDs and video-on-demand; BET Mobile, which provides ringtones, games and video content for wireless devices; and BET International, which operates BET in the United Kingdom and oversees the extension of BET network programming for global distribution.

The official festival website is www.urbanworld.org.

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