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SoCal Filmmakers Receive Top Honors to Screen at Festival de Cannes' Short Film Corner

Women-helmed production group, Footlight Studios, amongst top teams to have their short film screened at Festival de Cannes' Short Film Corner

TEMECULA, CA - The 48 Hour Film Project (48HFP) announced the top 8 films of their inaugural YES WE CANNES Film Challenge at the Filmapalooza 2023 Awards Show on Saturday, March 18, 2023, with women-helmed production group, Footlight Studios, being amongst top teams internationally. As part of this honor, Footlight Studios' film "Stealing Time" will screen at this year's Festival de Cannes' Short Film Corner.

As the 48 Hour Film Project Inland Empire Edition winners, with their film "The Spaces Between," the Footlights were invited to participate in the YES WE CANNES Film Challenge - a special worldwide competition for the very best filmmakers of the 48HFP 2022. Select winning teams were challenged to make a new film - from concept to final - in just 48 hours. Like the 48HFP, they were given a genre, a character, a prop, and a line of dialogue - all required - and the rest was up to them to make a 4-7 minute short film.

The 15 finalists of the challenge were announced in January 2023 and screened at Filmapalooza 2023 on March 17th. Chosen by an industry panel, the top 8 films now head to Festival de Cannes' Short Film Corner this May, as part of their special screenings of the 48HFP's Best International Films of 2022.

"We are completely floored that 'Stealing Time' will screen at the Cannes' Short Film Corner and honored that both 'Stealing Time' and 'The Spaces Between' were screened at Filmapalooza 2023. We couldn't be more grateful."

- Vanessa Silva, Team Leader, Director & DP

"Thank you to Mark Ruppert and his team for this incredible opportunity, the Rhino Street Productions Team for collaborating with us, and the entire Footlights Team who consistently work relentlessly to make films like these happen."

Footlight Studios seized the opportunity to collaborate with the IE second place winners, Rhino Street Productions, to create "Stealing Time." Like many Footlight films, "Stealing Time" is not what it appears on the surface, which follows a man defending his home from an unexpected holiday visitor, but the twist, meaning, and message go much deeper and, like "The Spaces Between", tackles a very sensitive issue with heart. Directed and Cinematography by Vanessa Silva, "Stealing Time" stars Heather Hentila, John Patrick Davis, and Greg Eidson, and was written by "Team Footlights" which includes Chelsea Gray, Ainsley Strachan, Dillan Blackwood Silva, Matt Adamo, Jenny Adamo, Hannah Warner, Cassie Anderson, Rachael Olsem, and Alexandra Flores.

About The 48 Hour Film Project - The 48 Hour Film Project is an international filmmaking event celebrating its 20th Anniversary. As a global community built on local events, the 48HFP connects with thousands of filmmakers each year on six continents. Since the 48 Hour Film Project's inception, more than 1,400 projects have taken place, over 50,000 short films have been made, and more than 600,000 filmmakers have taken part. They have been part of the Festival de Cannes' festivities since 2007 and partnered with Cannes for the last few years, featuring a small selection of the top 48HFP films from around the world, as a part of the Short Film Corner.

About the Footlights Team - Footlight Studios is a women-helmed production company that puts female storytellers at the forefront - in front and behind the camera - in pivotal and essential roles. Its Executive Producers are Vanessa Silva, Heather Hentila, Chelsea Gray & Ainsley Strachan, who have been working together in the scope of film, series, video, and picture production since 2014. The Footlights' goal is to make an inclusive, safe, and professional space for storytellers, regardless of experience, with a focus on female creatives.

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