



**SHARON STONE TO BE HONORED AT THE
2009 HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL**

Iconic Actress to Receive Outstanding Achievement in Acting Award and Mentor the Festival's Breakthrough Performers Program, which Honors Up and Coming Actors from their Rising Stars Program and European Film Promotion's Renowned Shooting Stars Initiative

***Rising Stars are Emmy Rossum, Emma Stone and Zach Gilford,
Rooney Mara
Shooting Stars are Samuli Vauramo, Cyron Melville and
Alba Rohrwacher***

September 2, 2009 – The 2009 Hamptons International Film Festival will honor iconic actress Sharon Stone this year with their annual Outstanding Achievement in Acting Award.

Additionally, Ms. Stone will participate in the festival's Breakthrough Performers Program. This year, the Hamptons Film Festival will again pair their Rising Stars Program with the European Film Promotion's renowned Shooting Stars initiative.

The Hamptons International Film Festival is dedicated to honoring outstanding new talent from around the world. The festival has chosen four extraordinary actors from North America and three from Europe. This year's North American Rising Stars are Emmy Rossum (*Dare, Phantom of the Opera*), Zach Gilford (*Dare, Friday Night Lights*), Emma Stone (*Paper Man, Superbad*) and Rooney Mara (*Tanner Hall, The Winning Season*). The European Shooting Stars are Samuli Vauramo (*Tears of April, Bunraku*), Cyron Melville (*Love and Rage, Fighter*) and Alba Rohrwacher (*Giovanna's Father, Good Morning Heartache, I am Love*). This blend of culture and art will make for an explosion of talent and excitement in the Hamptons.

Ms. Stone will guide these talented actors at the mentoring brunch (past mentors have included Gena Rowlands, Joan Allen, Ellen Burstyn, Robert Altman, Miranda Richardson, Frances McDormand and current board member Alec Baldwin), as well as accompany them to the Breakthrough Performers Gala Reception, public symposium, and a "Conversation With..."

"It's a privilege to be honored by the Hamptons International Film Festival," said Ms. Stone. "I'm excited to participate in the Breakthrough Performers Program, as this young, amazing talent becomes the next generation of important actors. This is a great tradition and I am humbled to be in the company of those who have mentored in the program before me, like Robert Altman and Gena Rowlands."

"We are honored to have talented, award-winning actress Sharon Stone as part of the festival this year. Her tremendous contribution to the world of film has captivated and entertained us throughout the years," said Lina Todd, Breakthrough Performers Program Director. "Having Ms. Stone mentor our Breakthrough Performers Program is sure to be one of the highlights of the festival as we continue our rewarding partnership with the European Film Promotion."

Shooting Stars is EFP's initiative for Europe's best young actors chosen annually by a jury of industry professionals. The showcase kicks off at the Berlin International Film Festival and spotlights some of the 10 selected talents and their films during the year at further film festivals.

The 2009 Hamptons International Film Festival takes place Thursday to Monday, October 8th – 12th, which includes Columbus Day Weekend.

The Hamptons International Film Festival is supported by American Airlines, Altour and c/o The Maidstone Hotel.

ABOUT THE HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

The Hamptons International Film Festival was founded to celebrate the Independent film - long, short, fiction and documentary - and to introduce a unique, varied spectrum of international films and filmmakers to the public. The Festival is committed to exhibiting films that express fresh voices and differing global perspectives, with the hope that these programs will enlighten audiences, provide invaluable exposure for filmmakers and present inspired entertainment for all.

ABOUT EUROPEAN FILM PROMOTION

European Film Promotion (EFP) is the only existing international organization active in the worldwide promotion and marketing of European cinema. The EFP network comprises 30 professional organizations from 31 European countries, each with extensive experience in marketing and promoting its own national cinema.

For more information about the Festival, [and to become a member](#), please visit our website at www.hamptonsfilmfest.org.

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