



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE 17TH ANNUAL HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

ANNOUNCES THE ADDITION OF

THE YOUNG VICTORIA

Directed by Jean-Marc Vallée, featuring Emily Blunt, Rupert Friend, Paul Bettany, Miranda Richardson, Jim Broadbent **to the Festival lineup**

East Hampton – NY - Sept. 28, 2009 : The 2009 Hamptons International Film Festival proudly announces an addition to their festival line-up Apparition's *The Young Victoria*, co-written and directed by Jean-Marc Vallée, and starring Emily Blunt, Rupert Friend, Paul Bettany, Miranda Richardson, Jim Broadbent. The film screens Friday, October 9th at 6:30pm and Saturday, October 10th at 8:45pm.

Montreal filmmaker **Jean-Marc Vallée**, whose hit 2005 film C.R.A.Z.Y. was distributed in over fifty countries and won some twenty international festival awards, switches gears with *The Young Victoria*, a chronicle of Queen Victoria's ascension to the throne, focusing on the early turbulent years of her reign and her legendary romance and marriage to Prince Albert.

2005 HIFF Rising Star Emily Blunt delivers a magnetic performance as the young queen that assumes power during the last days of England's golden age. The object of a royal power struggle, with everyone trying to win her favor from her the moment of her birth including her own mother, Victoria is the target of the advances and attention of the charming prime minister Lord Melbourne (Paul Bettany) and her handsome cousin Albert (Rupert Friend). Ultimately a story of romance as much as that of the machinations of wealth & power, what emerges is a tale of both modern love and a new way of governance.

“Jean-Marc Vallée continues to solidify his reputation as a top notch director, and Emily Blunt shines once again in this moving romance. We are so excited to work with past Industry Toast Honoree Bob Berney and Apparition in highlighting the work of past Rising Star Emily Blunt” says Director of Programming David Nugent.

The Young Victoria has received outstanding reviews, particularly for its young stars, from its recent screening as the Closing Night Film of the Toronto Film Festival. *Variety* refers to the film’s “Tip-top casting and playing, led by young thespis Emily Blunt and Rupert Friend as the royal lovebirds.” *Screen Daily* has called the film “lovingly detailed, lavishly recreated” and “charming.”

The Young Victoria is one of the first films to be acquired by Bob Berney’s and Bill Pohlad’s recently announced Apparition, and is scheduled to be released theatrically in November.

The Hamptons International Film Festival is also proud to announce the additions of Cannes hit *Ajami* and Sundance alum *Victoria Day* to its program.

Scandar Copti and Yaron Shan’s *Ajami* is a powerful crime drama set on the mean streets of Jaffa’s Ajami neighborhood, described by *Variety* as “packing a major punch.” It will be having its US Premiere in the Hampton’s Golden Starfish Awards Narrative Competition.

David Bezmozgis’ *Victoria Day* will have its East Coast Premiere in the World Cinema section of the festival. In the film, which takes place in the span of one week, seemingly disparate forces converge on a Toronto teenager- the search for a missing boy, his romance with the boy’s sister, the Stanley Cup finals, the fortunes of his own hockey team, and a peculiar Vietnam re-enactment with Victoria Day firecrackers.

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.

Website at www.hamptonsfilmfest.org.

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