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8TH ANNUAL SURF NITE IN SLO TO FEATURE 3D SURF FILM FROM AUSTRALIA

BY: INDUSTRY SPY / POSTED ON FEBRUARY 8, 2013



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San Luis Obispo, CA (January 31, 2013) — The San Luis Obispo International Film Festival (SLOIFF) is proud to present its 8th annual Surf Nite in SLO on Thursday, March 7th at the Fremont Theatre in downtown San Luis Obispo. The double-header event will begin at 6:30pm with Leslie Iwerks short award-winning THE RIDE, followed by the sensational new Australian film, STORMSURFERS 3D.

Presented by the City of Pismo Beach and the Boutique Hotel Collection, this event is also sponsored by Quality Suites San Luis Obispo and SLO Brewing Company.

The evening will begin with THE RIDE, the short documentary directed by Leslie Iwerks, which won Best Film at XDance in 2005. Renowned surfers, Laird Hamilton, Dave Kalama, Tom Carroll, Ross Clarke-Jones and Peter Mel ride one of Maui's biggest swells. The 45-minute film is a day-in-the life look at training for and surfing waves the size of office buildings. Director Leslie Iwerks is the recipient of the SLOIFF's Spotlight Award this year and this film is part of the retrospective of her films being screened throughout the Festival. Iwerks and if available, producer Jane Kachmer will be on hand for the Q&A.

There will be a short intermission followed by STORMSURFERS 3D. Fresh off a big win at the Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts (their version of the Oscars), this will be only the third North American screening of the film since its premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival last September.

Synopsis: Best friends and professional surfing legends Tom Carroll and Ross Clarke-Jones are very aware that middle age is upon them, but they can't stop exploring the globe for that elusive rush of adrenaline and thrill of danger, in search of the ultimate wave.

Using state-of-the-art 3D technology and narrated by Academy-Award nominee Toni Collette, directors Christopher Nelius and Justin McMillan's STORMSURFERS 3D is a visually stunning, inspiring and epic cinematic adventure that follows two men who refuse to put their youth behind them, setting out on a quest to hunt down and ride some of the most deadly waves in the Southern Ocean.

Co-Producer Marcus Gillezeau will be traveling to San Luis Obispo from Sydney for the screening and Q&A. Festival organizers plan to announce other special guests soon.

An after-party at SLO Brewing Company will follow the event, located conveniently in the heart of downtown San Luis Obispo at 1119 Garden Street. There will be drink specials and the opportunity to meet visiting surfers and filmmakers.

Tickets for Surf Nite in SLO are on sale now at www.slofilmfest.org and the SLOIFF HQ beginning on Feb. 14, located at 1007 Monterey St. or by calling (805) 546-3456. Tickets for the double-feature event cost \$22 (\$17 for students and SLOIFF Film Society members).

Photos available upon request. Press credentials will be available for approved media representatives. Please contact: festivaldirector@slofilmfest.org for more information and a press packet. #####

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