



THE MING 2009

Short Film Festival

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Fifth Annual MING Short Film Festival is looking for the best local films

MING.EAT.DRINK Lounge and Red Bull proudly announce the arrival of the Fifth Annual Ming Short Film Festival.

The festival continues to grow as a solid medium of expression for the abundance of creative talent throughout the province. "Calgary has a lot of local talent, and is becoming familiar with our festival now," said Wayne Leong, Owner/Operator of MING Lounge, adding "We are ecstatic that Red Bull and FFWD Magazine are once again in full support of this great competition." Both Red Bull and FFWD Magazine have been proud sponsors of the festival since it's inception and continue to actively support the Calgary arts community.

With the festival heading into it's fifth year, organizers are aiming to ramp up the buzz around the event. In addition to an active Facebook fan page, the festival will have it's own YouTube channel featuring short clips from and about the festival, professionally produced by Mosaic Studios in Calgary. Just another way for the festival to echo the same goal it has had since it's inaugural year: remain accessible to the people by the people for the people.

The festival continues to remain true to this proletariat influence and allows the public to decide how far a film will go in the festival. The festival showcase begins with a two-week screening period in August. It is here that the public will vote for their favorites to move on to the second round. From there, a panel of local expert judges, including famed local playwright Eugene Stickland, will critique the films and wittle the finalists down to a final Top Ten. The Top Ten films will be featured in the final showcase at the Festival's Award's Gala on September 12. At the Gala, the judges will award the Grand Prize winner with a cheque for \$2000 and a cheque for \$500 to the runner-up.

The 2008 Grand Prize winning film, entitled "The Lesson", was directed by Punam Kumar Gill. The first runner up was awarded to two-time festival runner up, director Dave Teatro for his animated film "Trick Shark". Second runner up went to director Kyle Thomas for his black and white fim, "Ghost Town".

The 2009 Festival Open Call for Submissions begins April 1, 2009. Deadline for entries is July 24, 2009 at 5 pm (MTN). For complete rules and regulations, or for more information, visit www.mingeatdrink.com.

ABOUT MING: MING.EAT.DRINK Lounge is located at 520 17 Avenue SW on the busy downtown strip. In March of 1997, under a lit tufted leather and stainless steel sign, MING opened it's doors for business. Born in response to the market's demands for premium products without pretense, in addition to a growing trend towards all things Asian, MING is an eclectic union of the two. Individuality is the hallmark of MING. From the wide range of music played by bartenders to retro soda glasses and themed drinks, MING is a statement of unique style. Please visit www.mingeatdrink.com for more.

ABOUT RED BULL: The drink that started it all is Red Bull. While few people can say they have created an industry, Dietrich Mateschitz did just that when he founded Red Bull. The company has been moving mountains since it began and shows no signs of slowing down. Sponsoring all things "anti-authoritarian" has been a key to the company's success as it remains tapped into the consciousness of young minds around the world.

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