

FIRST WINS TOP PRIZE AT REEL TALENT AWARDS EVENT HOSTED BY AUDI CHANNEL & THE HOSPITAL CLUB

Audi channel Reel Talent Awards - the only UK accolade to finance the production of finalists' films

Wednesday 3 October 2007 – Audi channel, the prestige car company's 24-hour digital television channel, and The Hospital Club, the most dynamic members' club for the film industry, are proud to announce that FIRST has been chosen as the ultimate winner of this year's Audi channel Reel Talent Awards.

Chris Hawken, Audi Brand Communications Manager presented writer / director Tinge Krishnan and producer Sacha Guttentstein with their prize at a VIP event at The Hospital Club on 3 October 2007.

The 2007 Audi channel Reel Talent Awards is the only award scheme of its kind. The three winning teams, chosen by a panel of industry experts, were awarded £10,000 each to make a five-minute film based on their submitted scripts. Each script deals with the theme "First".

The FIRST team will also receive a 35mm print of their winning film and £750 towards festival entrance fees. The two runners up will receive a further £350 each.

The films produced as part of the Audi Channel Reel Talent Awards this year are:

1. **FIRST** (writer / director: Tinge Krishnan; producer: Sacha Guttentstein) - Sophie, a teenager with learning difficulties, is a talented pianist. When her best friend Danko enters her into a prestigious composer competition she discovers that the world is not quite ready for her unorthodox musical style. Director's credentials include best short BAFTA in 2002 for *Shadowscan*.
2. **EL HOPPO** (writer / director: Marcus Shepherd; producer: Jonathan Taylor) - One hot summer afternoon in a remote Spanish village a stranger arrives, the first man to hop around the world.
3. **HE SAID** (co-writer / director: Suzi Ewing; co-writer / co-producer: Line Langebek Knudsen; producer: Rory Fry) - In a bid to gain longed for attention, a son discovers his father's secret second family.

All three films will feature as part of The 51st Times BFI London Film Festival's Industry Programme on 23 October and showcase at Encounters International Short Film Festival on 24 November. They will also receive their broadcast debut on the Audi channel.

Chris Hawken, Audi's Brand Communications Manager, says: "The "First" theme for this year's award fits perfectly with the Audi brand ethos – Vorsprung durch Technik. The finished films will be available to view on the Audi channel. This was the very first platform of its kind and one which will enable us to help the winning filmmakers reach a large audience".

Duncan Cargill, Creative and Membership Director of The Hospital Club says: "We're thrilled with all of the films. It has been an exciting competition that has revealed some outstanding talent and we feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to nurture these 3 teams of film makers and deliver some great new work. This is what The Hospital Club is all about."

The judges for this year's award included an impressive line-up of renowned figures from the British film industry including award-winning writer/director Neil Hunter, film composer David Arnold and critics Charles Gant and Jonathan Romney.

The winners attended an intensive script development course run by The Hospital Club and leading filmmakers' organization, The Script Factory, where they received invaluable advice from major directors, producers and screenwriters. They also received the full support throughout development and production of award-winning producers, Intrepido, who are executive producers as well as distributors of the films. Finally the winners were given access to The Hospital Club's state-of-the-art studios and production facilities.

The winning films will also be broadcasted on the Audi channel, which broadcasts 24 hours a day, seven days a week, on Sky Guide No. 884 and www.audi.co.uk. Sky is broadcast to 8 million homes and 21 million individuals. More information can be found at www.reeltalentaward.co.uk

ENDS

NOTE TO EDITORS

The Audi channel Reel Talent Awards are created and produced by The Hospital, London's pre-eminent creative community and members' club.

Audi Channel: Sky Guide No. 884 or www.audi.co.uk

Audi Channel is the official TV channel of Audi, which was the first car company in the world to transmit its own dedicated digital television channel and holds the first ever self-promotional licence, granted by Ofcom, setting a precedent in broadcasting regulations. As well as showcasing Audi's range of vehicles and providing news of Audi's motorsport activities, Audi Channel also broadcasts a wide range of programmes from the world of entertainment, fashion and sport. It can also be watched online at www.audi.co.uk

The Hospital Club: www.thehospital.co.uk

The Hospital Club is unique because it's the only club designed specifically for creative entrepreneurs - the people who make things, and the people that make those things happen. As part of London's creative community our role is to discover and feed the best creative talent, and produce, publish and celebrate their work.

The Covent Garden club is the place for members to meet, work, get things done or simply enjoy themselves. So we offer everything they need to do so: bars, lounges, a members' restaurant, cinema and a gallery, alongside state of the art music and television production facilities. Visit the hospital online at www.thehospital.co.uk

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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