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British Short Film 'Gone Fishing' Wins Inaugural Producers Challenge Competition

Los Angeles, CA-June 8, 2009-British short film "Gone Fishing" has won for Best Narrative Film in the inaugural Producers Challenge Competition. The competition was the closing event for the first annual Producers Guild of America "Produced By" conference held at Sony Pictures Studios.

Finalists were drawn from over 600 entrants from around the world. British Producer / Director of the film, Chris Jones, was present to accept the award from event co-chair Ms. Gale Anne Hurd, producer of films such as 'Aliens', 'Terminator' and most recently, 'The Incredible Hulk'. "The judges were unanimous in selecting "Gone Fishing" as the winner and we all felt it was a wonderful film," said PGA President of the North American Division, Rachel Klein. Prizes include a coveted mentoring lunch with one of Hollywood's top producers.

"Gone Fishing" has already won over 25 international accolades and was Oscar shortlisted in 2009. "Winning this award from The Producers Guild of America is extraordinary," comments Jones.

The way in which the film was financed and made makes it unusual, even for the independent film world. "I could not fund the film myself, so I chose to ask everyone I ever met for £50 (\$80). In return, I promised I would do my best to make a world class movie, throw a great premiere and give them a credit on the movie... so we have 200 producers! I guess we were pioneers in the now accepted term of 'crowd sourcing' as a way of funding a film." Jones is the author of the hugely successful Guerrilla Film Makers Handbook series (over 100,000 copies sold) and "Gone Fishing" gave him the chance to reach out to the community of emerging film makers surrounding the books.

"We also promised to take everyone on our journey and documented the whole process via a blog, including many hours of behind the scenes video. The blog has become its own entity now, attracting thousands of film makers every week."
(www.chrisjonesblog.com)

Jones has already decided he will be back next year, "The conference was an amazing insight and I can't afford to miss attending next year, it's that essential."

Chris Jones works out of the historic Ealing Film Studios in West London.

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