

## **Emerging Filmmakers Selected for Kick Start 2004**

Vancouver, BC – January 16, 2004 - **The Directors Guild of Canada, BC District Council and British Columbia Film** are pleased to announce the five Kick Start 2004 recipients. Each of the selected applicants will receive financial support in the amount of \$12,000 plus post-production assistance from **Rainmaker Digital Pictures, Post Modern Sound, Finale Editworks and/or Western Post**

### ***Fishbowl* – Eric Johnson**

Rick Stevenson is his mentor. The modern city has left Michael feeling isolated and alone. When he accidentally becomes a thief, Michael discovers an unusual way to connect to the city around him.

### ***The Harp* – John Bolton**

Mark Sawers is his mentor. Toby (early twenties) is a lonely usherette who loves classical music. Right before an intimate concert hall performance of Beethoven's String Quartet Opus 74 ("The Harp"), Toby meets a young man who may be the love of her life. But can she make a connection with him during the concert, with an entire audience literally and figuratively coming between them?

### ***Once A Fish* – Ling Chiu**

Anne Wheeler is her mentor. Theresa's obsession with the piece of fish her father was eating before he died is how she's able to cope with his death. But then she meets Will, whose encounter with her & the smoked salmon changes everything.

### ***Packing Up* – William B. Davis**

Tom Braidwood is his mentor. Packing up his office on his last day, a university professor discovers that retirement may not be what he had hoped.

### ***Say Yes* – Neil Every**

Guy Bennett is his mentor. "I didn't kiss back" is not, apparently, a good defence for Dan when he arrives home to find possessions strewn across the yard, doors and windows barred, and an upset girlfriend Carol. Dan must earn forgiveness, avoid the cynical judgment of Carol's cynical mother and persuade his girlfriend to accept a ring and "Say yes"...

Kick Start is designed for emerging filmmakers from British Columbia who have demonstrated the talent, imagination and craft skills necessary to understand the job function of directing. Successful applicants will clearly express their vision and their ability to meet the challenges of making a short film. Kick Start assists five winning directors each year with the production of a ten-minute dramatic film or video. Each director completes his or her project under the guidance of an experienced industry mentor, who acts as a consultant and resource person.

Applicants must be either a graduate from a post-secondary institution or a recognized film school, or possess equivalent experience in the film industry. Projects must be completed within a year and have a maximum cash budget of \$35,000.

Both program partners are excited to support emerging filmmakers in British Columbia by providing them with a “calling card film” to assist them in developing their directing career.

**The Directors Guild of Canada**

The Directors Guild of Canada (DGC) is a national labour organization which represents key creative and logistical personnel in the film and television industries. The DGC supports and facilitates member employment opportunities and represents member interests with regard to both immediate work environments and future concerns as a labor force.

**British Columbia Film**

British Columbia Film is a privately administered, non-profit society established in 1987 by the provincial government with a mandate to expand and diversify the cultural industries of film and video in British Columbia.

The application deadline for Kick Start 2005 is September 10, 2004. Applications and information are available from the Directors Guild of Canada, BC District Council Office or on their website at [www.dgcbc.com](http://www.dgcbc.com)

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