

Press Release



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For immediate release

Four-legged film stars from the East Midlands recognised at major film festival awards

The world's first international awards for canine stars of the big screen arrives at The Times BFI London Film Festival this weekend. *The Fidos* is a glittering event which celebrates the silver screen's finest canine moments and is presented by the organisers of the prestigious annual Palm Dog Award at Cannes Film Festival, now in its seventh fabulous year.

EM Media is delighted to announce nominations for dogs which feature in two of the agency's recent co-financed productions.

First up is Grace the collie, she's up for the **Historical Hound Award**. This award is for a dog in a film set in bygone days and Grace is nominated for her role in *Control* playing alongside the award-winning newcomer Sam Riley (Ian Curtis). There's some stiff competition in this category however as Grace is up against the corgis which starred alongside Helen Mirren in *The Queen*.

Grace's owner Pauline Binch commented on the collie's nomination, "I'm absolutely thrilled with Grace for her nomination, she played a small, but vital role in the film and winning this award would be a tremendous honour for us both!"

Another dog with an East Midlands connection is nominated, this time in the **Cupcake Cinema Award**, this category is for dogs which appear in a short film. The canine in question starred alongside Peter Mullan in Paddy Considine's directorial debut *Dog Altogether* and is owned by David Stewart of Creature Feature Ltd.

EM Media wishes both dogs (and their owners) the best of luck at this year's *Fidos* which take place on Sunday 28 October.

For further information, imagery or interview requests please contact Sally Hodgson, Communications Executive at EM Media on 0115 934 9090 or via sally.hodgson@em-media.org.uk.

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Notes to editors

- **Grace** (the collie) was 8 years old last Monday – she had a small party.
- **EM Media** is the Regional Screen Agency for England's East Midlands. A delegate body of the UK Film Council, the agency invests RIFE Lottery and Treasury Finance in film activity and European Regional Development Funds (ERDF) in the development, production, distribution, exhibition, prototyping and publishing of Film (long and short form), Television (corporate broadcast, internet TV), Games (for console, PC, hand held, mobile phone) and Interactive (internet, mobile phone and TV software).
- EM Media is a partner in Warp X, the pioneering digital film studio established to revitalise low-budget British film-making, an initiative of UK Film Council, Film4, Screen Yorkshire, Optimum Releasing and EM Media.
- EM Media has to date co-financed 16 feature films with ERDF finance. EM Media's slate of films in production, forthcoming and current releases include: Summer (Sixteen Films 2007), psychological thriller Hush (Warp X 2007), Donkey Punch (Warp X 2007), Complete History (Warp X 2007), horror Mum and Dad (2AM Films 2007), Better Things (Mascot Pictures 2008), And When Did You Last See Your Father? (Number 9 Films 2007), Magicians (Intermedia Films 2007), Control (NorthSee 2007), This is England (Warp Films 2006). Other feature investments include Brothers of the Head (Potboiler Productions 2006), A Cock and Bull Story (Revolution Films 2005), Dead Man's Shoes (Warp Films 2004), One For the Road (One for the Road Productions 2004), Once Upon a Time in the Midlands (Slate Films 2003) and Anita and Me (Starfield Productions 2002).
- EM Media's Location Services has encouraged and assisted a range of productions to use the East Midlands for locations and filming, including Atonement (Working Title Films), The Da Vinci Code (Imagine Entertainment), The Other Boleyn Girl (BBC Films), The Golden Compass (New Line Cinema), Pride & Prejudice (Working Title Films).
- For more information on EM Media see www.em-media.org.uk.
- The **British Independent Film Awards**, created by Raindance, are now under the newly appointed directorship of Johanna von Fischer and Tessa Collinson, who have jointly been involved with the running of the Awards since its inception in 1998.
- Patrons of BIFA include Tilda Swinton, Ray Winstone, Mike Figgis, Tom Hollander, Adrian Lester, Ken Loach, Ewan McGregor, Samantha Morton, Bill Nighy, Trudie Styler, Meera Syal and Michael Winterbottom.
- For more information on BIFA please go to www.bifa.org.uk.

