

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Global Film Initiative Grant-recipients Premiere Four Films at Cannes 2009**  
*Films to screen in Un Certain Regard, Directors' Fortnight, and Critics' Week*

San Francisco, CA – May 12, 2009 – The Global Film Initiative announced today that four films awarded production funding through its Granting Program will premiere at Cannes 2009:

*KARAOKE*

Chris Chong Chan Fui, Malaysia

**Directors' Fortnight/Cannes 2009**  
2009 GFI grant recipient

*HUACHO*

Alejandro Fernández Almendras, Chile

**Critics' Week/Cannes 2009**  
2007 GFI grant recipient

*INDEPENDENCIA*

Raya Martin, Philippines

**Un Certain Regard/Cannes 2009**  
2008 GFI grant recipient

*BAD DAY TO GO FISHING*

Álvaro Brechner, Uruguay

**Critics' Week/Cannes 2009**  
2006 GFI grant recipient

“These are accomplished, powerful films selected for support from hundreds of applications,” says Susan Weeks Coulter, Board Chair of the Global Film Initiative. “We are incredibly proud of these filmmakers and their work, and honored that our funding contributed to their success.”

Since its founding in 2002, the Initiative has awarded more than seventy grants to film projects from Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East, including Cannes favorites *Acne* (Federico Veiroj, Uruguay, 2008), *Night Train* (Diao Yinan, China, 2007), and *Cinema, Aspirins and Vultures* (Marcelo Gomes, Brazil, 2005).

For more information about screenings of grant-supported films at Cannes 2009, please visit the festival website, <http://www.festival-cannes.fr/en.html>, and for more information about the Initiative's Granting Program and grant-recipients, please visit <http://www.globalfilm.org/programs.htm>.

**About the Global Film Initiative**

*The Global Film Initiative* is a U.S.-based not-for-profit organization specializing in the support of independent film from Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East. Founded in 2002 to promote cross-cultural understanding through the language of cinema, the Initiative awards numerous grants to deserving filmmakers from around the world each year, and supports a touring film series entitled Global Lens. For more information about the Global Lens film series and Global Film Initiative programs, please visit: <http://www.globalfilm.org>.

###

*Contact:*

Chris Wiggum

Director of Public Relations  
and Business Development

The Global Film Initiative

415-934-9500 / [pr@globalfilm.org](mailto:pr@globalfilm.org)