



EVENHAND

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
NOVEMBER 7, 2002

"I Can't Stand Fat Cops!"

EvenHand Makes its World Premiere at AFI Fest 2002

New York, NY – The feature film, *EvenHand*, directed by independent filmmaker, **Joseph Pierson**, has been accepted at the AFI International Film Festival which takes place in Los Angeles, November 7 – 17, 2002.

EvenHand was written by south Texas-native **Mike Jones** (former senior editorial staff member of indieWIRE and ifcRANT magazines.) The film stars **Bill Sage** (High Art, Simple Men, Flirt, American Psycho) as the volatile Officer Ted Morning, with newcomer **Bill Dawes** (Just for Kicks, Recipe for Disaster) as Morning's more level-headed partner, Rob Francis. *EvenHand* explores the world of two Texas cops as they fight their way through a tedious and occasionally terrifying maze of low-lifes, firebugs and junkies that populate the fictional city of San Lovisa, Texas.

EvenHand was shot on location in San Antonio by Independent Spirit Award nominee, **Tim Orr**, cinematographer for the highly acclaimed George Washington and edited by **Alex Albanese** whose credits include the experimental documentary Seed. Former Soul Coughing lead singer, **Mike Doughty**, supplements the movie's eccentric appeal with four original songs commissioned for the film (Sweet Francis, The Devilish Verve of the Age is Like a Man with a Staple Gun, and others.)

Notable among the supporting cast is **Io Tillet Wright**, a 17-year old girl, who delivers a startling performance as a boy. Her portrayal of Toby, Morning's scapegoat and subtle saviour, is both natural and poignant. **Mirelly Taylor** (Serving Sara) plays Officer Francis' love interest whom he woos at the local deli. Comedian **Irene Pena** and actor **Hector Garcia** bring comic relief as local talents in the principal cast, portraying a dysfunctional suburban couple.

Joseph Pierson, president of Cypress Films, Inc., began his filmmaking career by working on several Woody Allen movies including A Midsummer Night's Sex Comedy, Zelig, Broadway Danny Rose and The Purple Rose of Cairo. He's supported by Cypress Films' partner **Jon Glascoe** as executive producer and **Fernando Cano** as the film's San Antonio-based producer.

EvenHand will screen at AFI on Thursday, November 14th at 9:15pm and Friday, November 15th at 10:00pm at the Arclight Cinema. A special VIP cocktail reception featuring a performance by Mike Doughty will follow on Saturday, November 16th. Cast and crew are available for press interviews. Additional information about *EvenHand*, including the director's frank and entertaining daily journal, can be found at www.EvenHand.com. Additional information about AFI Fest 2002 can be found at www.afi.com.

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