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Coolidge Corner Theatre and Global Film Initiative Present
Boston-Area Premiere Screenings Global Lens 2008:
Award-Winning Films From Around The World

Brookline, MA – The Coolidge Corner Theatre has been selected to host the Boston-area premiere screenings of Global Lens 2008, a touring film series of award-winning narrative feature films from around the world. One film a month will be screened at the Coolidge throughout the year, beginning on Sunday, April 13 with the Croatian produced *All For Free*, directed by Antonio Nuic'. The touring program is presented by The Global Film Initiative, a U.S.-based non-profit organization specializing in the acquisition, distribution and support of independent film from the developing world. Countries represented in the 2008 series include Argentina, China, Croatia, India, Iran, Lebanon, Philippines and South Africa.

“The films selected for Global Lens 2008 are beautiful, powerful stories that represent the best of cinema from around the world—they must be seen and experienced,” says Susan Weeks Coulter, Board Chair of The Global Film Initiative.

Leading the list of critical favorites are *The Bet Collector* from the Philippines (a FIPRESCI jury winner) and *Luxury Car* from China selected for the prestigious Un Certain Regard at the Cannes Film Festival. Also included is Sundance/NHK award-winner, *The Custodian* (Golden Bear Nomination, Berlin Film Festival), and South African comedic hit, *Bunny Chow* (Official Selection, Toronto IFF).

Global Lens 2008, now in its fifth year, hosted its U.S. premiere at the Museum of Modern Art, New York in January, embarking on a year-long tour of over thirty cities across the United States. For screening-dates and locations, please visit: <http://www.globalfilm.org/calendar.php>

The Global Film Initiative was founded in 2002 with the mission of promoting cross-cultural understanding through cinema. Each year the Initiative awards numerous grants to deserving filmmakers from emerging nations, 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>.

The Coolidge Corner Theatre is one of the nation's most prominent independently operated movie theaters, run by the not-for-profit Coolidge Corner Theatre Foundation. Over the past several years, the theater has won numerous awards and recognitions for creative and innovative programming. In 2008 the Coolidge was among select distinguished cultural organizations to be awarded significant funding from the Cultural Facilities Fund, a program

administered by MassDevelopment and the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Over the past five years the Coolidge Corner Theatre Foundation completed a successful 2.5 million dollar capital campaign supporting upgrades, renovations and a stunning restoration to the theater's original Art Deco detail.

Screenings for Global Lens 2008 are once a month throughout the year on Sundays at 12:30 pm (in December two films will be shown) in Moviehouse II. Additional screenings will be held the following Monday evening in the Minimax. Admission is \$5. The Coolidge Corner Theatre is located at 290 Harvard Street in the heart of Coolidge Corner, Brookline, Massachusetts. For information on programming, call 617-734-2500, or visit the website at www.coolidge.org.

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Global Lens 2008 films schedule for the Coolidge Corner Theatre:

Sunday, April 13

ALL FOR FREE (SVE DZABA)

Directed by Antonio Nuic', Croatia, 2006

Personal tragedy leads a young man to buy a mobile refreshment truck and embark on a darkly humorous and quixotic journey across post-war Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Sunday, May 4

THE BET COLLECTOR (KUBRADOR)

Directed by Jeffrey Jeturian, Philippines, 2006

A resilient housewife's job of collecting cash bets on the local numbers-game takes a psychological toll on her in the days before All Saint's Day.

Sunday, June 22

BUNNY CHOW

Directed by John Barker, South Africa, 2006

Three up-and-coming comedians head out on a road trip, abandoning rules, reason and girlfriends to find music and the meaning of life in the "new" South Africa.

Sunday, July 6

THE CUSTODIAN (EL CUSTODIO)

Directed by Rodrigo Moreno, Argentina, 2006

A man's threshold for the mundane is chronicled by the uneventful days of his life as a bodyguard for a high profile politician.

Sunday, August 10

THE FISH FALL IN LOVE (MAHIHA ASHEGH MISHAVAND)

Directed by Ali Raffi, Iran, 2005

A group of resourceful women use food to convince a stubborn businessman to allow them to continue operating a restaurant in a building he owns.

Sunday, September 7

KEPT & DREAMLESS (LAS MANTENIDAS SIN SUEÑOS)

Directed by Vera Fogwill and Martín Desalvo, Argentina, 2005

Set during Argentina's economic crisis of the nineties, a drug-addicted mother struggles to keep her life afloat with the aid of her fiercely affectionate nine year-old daughter.

Sunday, October 12

THE KITE (LE CERF-VOLANT)

Directed by Randa Chahal Sabbag, Lebanon, 2003

On the eve of her marriage, a Lebanese girl realizes she is in love with the Israeli soldier guarding the border checkpoint that separates her from her fiancé.

Sunday, November 2

LET THE WIND BLOW (HAVA ANEY DEY)

Directed by Partho Sen Gupta, India, 2004

At the height of nuclear-tensions between India and Pakistan, a restless group of friends weigh the bitter reality of their lives against fate and the philosophy of a nation.

Sunday, December 7

LUXURY CAR (JIANG CHENG XIA RI)

Directed by Wang Chao, China, 2006

A man travels to the city to visit his daughter—a karaoke bar escort—hoping to fulfill his wife's last wish of finding their missing son.

Sunday, December 14

OPERA JAWA

Directed by Garin Nugroho, Indonesia, 2006

Located in lush forests and in pristine beaches of Java, this dazzling visual narrative tells the story of a marriage threatened by temptation. Based on "The Abduction of Sita," from the Hindu epic, *The Ramayana*.