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Don Hertzfeldt at 47th Ann Arbor Film Festival

Academy Award-nominated animator's only Spring presentation of "An Evening with Don Hertzfeldt" to present regional premiere of latest work

ANN ARBOR, MICH. - March 2, 2009 - Cult animator and Academy Award nominee Don Hertzfeldt is coming to the Ann Arbor Film Festival for a rare, one-night event, presenting the exclusive regional premiere of "I am so proud of you."

Cult animator and Academy Award nominee Don Hertzfeldt (Rejected, the Meaning of Life, Billy's Balloon) is coming to the Ann Arbor Film Festival on Friday, March 27th. A selection of Don's classic animated shorts return to the big screen, culminating in the exclusive regional premiere of his brand new film, "I am so proud of you." His longest piece to date, "I am so proud of you" is the eagerly anticipated second chapter to "Everything will be ok", winner of the Sundance Film Festival's Grand Jury Award in Short Filmmaking and named by many critics as one of the "best films of 2007". The screening will be immediately followed by a live on-stage interview and audience Q+A with Don Hertzfeldt. We can't stress this enough: One night only!

Like all of Hertzfeldt's films, "I am so proud of you" was single-handedly animated and photographed by hand without the use of computers. It was shot entirely on an antique 35mm animation stand, one of the last remaining cameras of its kind left in America. The film's special effects were meticulously created directly on film, using traditional double exposures, in-camera mattes, and innovative experimental techniques. The 22 minute film was nearly two years in the making.

"An Evening with Don Hertzfeldt" will be presented at 7pm on Friday, March 27th at the historic Michigan Theatre in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Tickets are \$9 for the general public, \$7 students/seniors/AAFF members, and festival-goers with a full or weekend pass already gain admission. For more information, please contact: PR@aafilmfest.org

DON HERTZFELDT IS AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS

***THE FULL PROGRAM for the 47th ANN ARBOR FILM FESTIVAL WILL BE ANNOUNCED March 3rd

***The 47th Festival takes place March 24 - 29, 2009

About the Ann Arbor Film Festival

The Ann Arbor Film Festival is the original North American independent film festival – established 1963. The festival is internationally renowned as a premier showcase for independent and experimental films from around the world that are visionary, cutting-edge and artistically-inspired. Pioneers in the world of film and art have shown early work at the AAFF, including Andy Warhol, Yoko Ono, Kenneth Anger, Gus Van Sant, Barbara Hammer, Devo and George Lucas, along with thousands of other influential filmmakers. The 47th festival received more than 2,600 submissions from over 40 countries and will present close to 200 films over six days, March 24-29, 2009. For more information, please visit www.aafilmfest.org.

Don Hertzfeldt

Don was born in 1976 in California's Bay Area and graduated from UC Santa Barbara in 1998 with a B.A. in Film Studies, where he produced his first four short films: Ah L'Amour, Genre, Lily and Jim, and Billy's Balloon, which received a nomination for the Short Film Palm D'Or at the 1998 Cannes Film Festival. His following film, Rejected, was nominated for an Oscar in 2001. In 2003, Don co-created The Animation Show, a touring theatrical program of international animation, which he programmed with Mike Judge for its first three seasons. A retrospective anthology of Don's work, Bitter Films: Volume One, was released on DVD in 2006 (www.bitterfilms.com). Since 1995, his cartoons have collectively received over 130 awards.

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