



PRESENTS

First OUT

**A COLLECTION OF AWARD-WINNING
GAY-THEMED SHORT FILMS**

Approx. 65 Minutes

Color

Street Date: January 2, 2007

Suggested Retail Price: \$22.95

SKU: D5006

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Alluvial Filmworks Releases Collection of Gay-Themed Short Films

Annual DVD Compilation to Feature Award-Winning Shorts From Emerging Talent in the Film Industry

Los Angeles, California — September 5, 2006 — **Alluvial Filmworks**, a division of Village Lighthouse, Inc. will release *First OUT*, a DVD collection of award-winning gay-themed short films on January 2, 2007. This annual collection of short films is intended to showcase works from filmmakers in the gay community as well as other filmmakers whose work reflects the lives of those in the gay community.

“*First OUT* is an annual DVD project that we are extremely proud to launch,” said Ron Miller, President of Village Lighthouse, Inc. “One of our company’s key goals is to help promote up-and-coming gay and lesbian artists and other talented artists who produce works that our community can relate to. Alluvial Filmworks has a history of giving filmmakers a launching pad for success by distributing their films about the lives of gays and lesbians. This short film collection will continue that tradition.”

Viewers will enjoy five shorts — two comedies, a drama, a documentary and a comic horror film.

The DVD includes *Different*, an award-winning playful teen comedy about a high school where gay is the norm and homecoming is just a few days away. *Different* won the Grand Prize for Best Student Film at the Rhode Island International Film Festival. It has screened at over 40 film festivals worldwide and has opened for award-winning queer features including *Boys Don’t Cry*, *Eating Out* and *Girl Play*. *Different*’s leading actor Ben Hogestyn starred as the first openly gay character on ABC’s *General Hospital* and currently stars on CBS’s *The Bold and The Beautiful*.

A Good Son has also enjoyed its fair share of success. This drama tells the story of a chance encounter between two teenage boys that leads to a turning point in one of their lives. The film won the Jury Prize for Best Short at the Philadelphia International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival. It also was a finalist in the Best Breakout Film/Video category at Outfest in addition to screening at over 25 film festivals worldwide.

Meet Joe Gay is a charming documentary by a 27-year-old gay man that expresses his attempts to understand why he’s single and what it takes to have a successful relationship. This film has screened at several film festivals.

In the hilarious gay comedy *Is One of You Eddie?*, stereotypes are challenged as four attractive gay men unfairly judge their neighbor, Eddie, because he doesn’t fit the “West Hollywood” mold. *Is One of You Eddie?* will appear on the big screen at Los Angeles’ famed ArcLight Cinema as part of LA Shorts Fest in September 2006. The short stars Robbie Laughlin from Q Television’s *On Q Live*, Bravo’s *Queer Eye for the Straight Girl* and the recent film release *Another Gay Movie*.

The Neighborly Thing is a chilling tale about a man who has an overzealous obsession with his upstairs neighbor. Both leading actors in this short were nominated for Best Lead Acting categories at SHOCKERFEST International Film Festival.

The suggested retail price of *First OUT* is \$22.95 and the running time is approximately 65 minutes. High-resolution imagery and an extensive press kit with additional information about the short films are available at www.villagelighthouse.com/firstout. The DVD is available for prebooking online at 10percent.com and Amazon.com or by calling 888-910-7372. *First OUT* will also be available at local community retailers upon release.

Alluvial Filmworks recognizes the accomplishments of talented individuals in the realm of gay and lesbian independent cinema by licensing or purchasing, marketing and distributing evergreen, unlimited-run films of gay interest. This film division also produces its own material and ultimately prides itself in making movies available that gays and lesbians can relate to and others can enjoy as well.

Village Lighthouse, Inc. is a leading manufacturer, distributor and retailer of gay and lesbian oriented merchandise. Its wholesale divisions, including **Alluvial Filmworks** and **10% Consumer Products**, distribute greeting cards, calendars, movies, magnets, cologne, lotion, male pheromones and other paper products to over 500 accounts nationally and many others abroad. Village Lighthouse’s retail divisions include **10percent.com**, the leading online shopping destination for the gay community, and **10percentGIRL.com**, a retail shopping website devoted to the interests of lesbian women. For more information about Village Lighthouse and its divisions, visit its corporate website at www.villagelighthouse.com.

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Film Synopses (Short)

- *Different* – (COMEDY)
 - A playful teen comedy about a high school where gay is the norm and homecoming is just a few days away.
- *A Good Son* – (DRAMA)
 - A chance encounter between two teenage boys leads to a turning point in one of their lives.
- *Meet Joe Gay* – (DOCUMENTARY)
 - A documentary by a 27-year-old gay man expressing his attempts to understand why he's single and what it takes to have a successful relationship.
- *Is One of you Eddie?* – (COMEDY)
 - Stereotypes are challenged as four attractive gay men unfairly judge their neighbor, Eddie, because he doesn't fit the "West Hollywood" mold.
- *The Neighborly Thing* – (COMIC HORROR)
 - A chilling tale about a gay man who has an overzealous obsession with his upstairs neighbor.

***Different* – Synopsis**

Justin has a secret: he's straight.

In the parallel universe of Liberty High School, gay is the norm and Homecoming is only days away. The most popular guy in school wants Justin to be his date. But will Justin dare to ask a quiet beauty in Biology class, outing his true feelings before the dance?

A teen comedy like you've never seen before, *Different* delivers a playful critique of the lengths we go to fit in where we don't belong.

***Different* – Filmmaker Biography**

Tyrrell Shaffner
Director: *Different*

Tyrrell Shaffner was born in Omaha, Nebraska. Soon after, however, her father's career took a sharp turn and the family moved. Often. Traveling around the world gave her a unique vision of the world, and moving so much gave her a wicked sense of humor to survive adolescence.

As an undergraduate at the Cinema-Television School at USC, Tyrrell was awarded a thesis film. *Different* is a teen comedy that takes place in a parallel universe where gay is the norm. It has screened at over 40 film festivals worldwide and was awarded the Jury Prize for Student Film at Rhode Island International Film in 2004.

Tyrrell produced the CalArts graduate thesis film, *Looking for Technology*, which examines Los Angeles as a modern day *Metropolis*. It will premiere at the Echo Park Film Center in Los Angeles in August 2006.

Most recently, Tyrrell produced the indie feature film *North by El Norte* – the story of a dreamer stuck in a small town, who travels North to Tijuana and builds a flying wheelbarrow to cross the US border. Beautifully shot on 35mm, this timely story is slated for a January 2006 release.

Currently, Tyrrell is developing her own feature film script, *Modern Love*, the tale of three hot female vampires having a blast in Los Angeles, that is...until one of them falls in love with a human.

Different – Director’s Statement

Both queer and straight audiences have responded to the yearning that Justin, the straight protagonist of *Different*, experiences on the outside looking in.

I directed this film from a script written by Zach De Gregorio, who based *Different* on his own experiences growing up in a small, private, Christian school. Since coming to Los Angeles to study film, Zach came out of the closet.

As a “hetero,” Justin's feelings of otherness also struck a chord with me. I was an outsider in high school and would eat lunch by myself in the woods outside my school. I believe this collaboration between Zach, a gay male writer, and myself, a straight female director, created the spark that gives *Different* its universal quality. And though this film is a biting satire on the predicament of gay and lesbian youth in America, it was made with the full belief that one day straight and gay couples alike will be dancing side by side at Prom.

Different was produced as an undergraduate thesis film at the USC Film Production School. Over the course of a semester, the entire film was pre-produced, shot and edited. It was truly an independent film and was shot for less than \$5,000. It could not have been made without the donations, support and time of countless friends and family and the magical touch of Producers Matt Wyatt and Geoff Pattison. The cast of talented professionals was also instrumental in the success of this film: from their imaginations this strange world became a reality on celluloid.

Different – Accolades

WINNER: Grand Prize, Student Film, Rhode Island International Film Festival

40+ film festivals worldwide

Has opened for the award-winning queer features:

- *Boys Don't Cry*
- *Eating Out*
- *Girl Play*

Award-winning actress Emily Stiles stars in *Eating Out* and *Eating Out 2: Sloppy Seconds*

Actor Ben Hogestyn starred as the first openly gay character on ABC's *General Hospital* and now stars on CBS's *The Bold and The Beautiful*.

Different – What People Are Saying

“An excellent film that will inspire other student filmmakers”

- George Marshall, Director of the Rhode Island Int'l Film Festival

“A funny and satirical switch”

- Chicago Reader

“Hilarious”

- DC Underground Film Festival

“A great little subversive film”

- Michael Lehmann, Director of *Heathers*

“Exposes the irrationality of intolerance through a hilarious inversion of values”

- Sao Paulo International Film Festival



Different – Credits

CAST:

Justin	Ben Hogestyn
Joanne	Emily Stiles
Ms. Robinson	Kay Stratton
Bobby	Bo Gorman
Jessica	Nicole Wilcox
David	Scott Lembke
Amy	Danilora Patrick
Johnny	Jake Bern
Steve	Kerby Joe Grubb
Pastor	Christian Robblee
Justin's Fathers	Dave Markham and Gary Lamoin
Joanne's Mother	Sheridan Cole

CREW:

Director	Tyrrell Shaffner
Written by	Zach De Gregorio
Producers	Matt Wyatt and Geoff Pattison
Assistant Director	Samandhi Alfieri
Cinematographers	Ray Park and Devin Curry
Assistant Cameraman	Joe Hatton
Production Designers	Evan Payne and Jared Hillman
Casting Director	Kate Freund
Casting Assistant	Jacquelyn Thropay
Make up and Hair Designer	Amy Strozzi
Choreographer	Emily Flores
Script Supervisor	Annabelle Troukens
Stunt Coordinator	Jeremy Fitzgerald
Key Set P.A	Jason Scott
Production Assistants	Ian McAllister, Andrew Chan and David Forsythe:
Sound Designers	Ben Gurner and Chad Michael
Editors	Evan Schiff and Gabe Barcia-Colombo
Original Music by	Ed Ma with Laura Steenberge



***A Good Son* – Synopsis**

A chance encounter between two teenage boys leads to a turning point in one of their lives.

***A Good Son* – Filmmaker Biography**

Robert Little

Director/Writer: *A Good Son*

Robert Little is an openly gay filmmaker who grew up in Palo Alto, California. As an undergraduate, he attended the University of Chicago and the Sorbonne in Paris, France. Since receiving his MFA in Film Production at the USC School of Cinema-Television, he has worked as a director, writer, editor, and producer. His award-winning short film *A Good Son* has screened at over two dozen festivals worldwide. He is currently in pre-production on a feature documentary and writing a book of short stories.

***A Good Son* – Director’s Statement**

A Good Son tells the story of a chance encounter that leads to a pivotal moment in a boy’s life, a moment of self-recognition. When you realize you’re different and understand the nature of that difference, the moment can be loaded with emotion — fear, desire, exhilaration, shame — all depending on who we are and where we come from. The memory, and the repercussions, can last a lifetime.



A Good Son – Accolades / Festival Screenings

JURY PRIZE: Best Short, Philadelphia International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival
FINALIST: Breakout Film/Video, Outfest Los Angeles

San Francisco International Lesbian & Gay Film Festival (premiere)
Nashville Independent Film Festival
Austin International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival
Image et Nation (Montreal)
Wingspan (Tucson, AZ)
Reeling (Chicago)
Seattle Gay & Lesbian Film Festival
Out For Reel (New Zealand)
Boston Gay & Lesbian Film Festival
Connecticut Gay & Lesbian Film Festival
Inside Out Toronto
Budapest Gay & Lesbian Film Festival
Reel Affirmations (Washington DC)
Philadelphia International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival
Mix Brasil
Amsterdam Pink Film Week
First Look (Los Angeles)
Mardi Gras Film Festival (Sydney, Australia)
Kino Im Schulz (Cologne, Germany)
Mix Mexico City
Honolulu Gay & Lesbian Film Festival
Seoul International Queer Film & Video Festival
Portland LGBT Film Festival
Hamburg Lesbisch-Schwule Filmtage (Hamburg, Germany)
London Lesbian & Gay Film Festival
Tokyo Gay & Lesbian Film Festival

A Good Son – Credits

CAST:

Joseph	Jay Michael Ferguson
Tim	Eddie Ebell
Father	Ben Martin
Jack	Drew Bell
Christy	Gabrielle Wagner
Janitor	Bruce Cavers

CREW:

Director/Writer	Robert Little
Producers	Craig Detweiler and Robert Little
Cinematographers	Jane Ainbinder, Natasha Rubin and Jeremy Vereecke
Editor	Charles Oestreicher
Music	Alan Silva

Meet Joe Gay – Synopsis

What happens when a 27-year-old filmmaker, who's never had a relationship longer than three months, tries to write and direct a romantic gay fairytale? It fails.

Meet Joe Gay is a multimedia (BetaSP, 16mm, Super-8) documentary in which director Benjamin Morgan attempts to understand why he's single and what love and relationships are all about. Morgan talks to an ex-boyfriend, his parents and two gay couples (teenagers together four months and a couple celebrating 41 years together) for perspective.

Pieces of the fairytale find their way into the film as the filmmaker comes to terms with his naiveté and expectations.

Meet Joe Gay – Filmmaker Biography

Benjamin Morgan

Writer/Director: *Meet Joe Gay*

Morgan grew up in Carmel, California. He spent his undergraduate days at Stanford University and eventually found his way to the University of Southern California School of Cinema-Television. His first two films, *The Search* and *The Pea*, were selected to screen, respectively, at the 1997 Los Angeles Out of Bounds Festival. He intends to pursue a career in television and is pitching sit-coms around town. Another film Morgan made, *The Search* about a lesbian questioning her religion and sexuality screened at the San Francisco International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival.

In 2003, Morgan was one of five gay men featured in *Gay Hollywood* – a documentary/reality show on the AMC Network exploring the challenges and possibilities that gay artists in Hollywood face. Morgan has also written for the GLAAD Media Awards, specifically the San Francisco show hosted by *Queer as Folk*'s Peter Paige.

Some random tidbits about Morgan: He went on *Judge Judy* as a defendant. He was sued by his friend of 22 years for holding a *Brady Bunch* board game hostage because she broke his camcorder at a Valentine's Day party. If there were ever any doubt that he is still trapped in adolescence, this should allay that.

Meet Joe Gay – Festival Screenings

Breckenridge Festival of Film
DocSIDE film Festival
First Look at the Directors Guild of America
Mill Valley Film Festival
NewFest (NY Gay and Lesbian Film Festival)
Uptown Gay and Lesbian Film Festival



Meet Joe Gay – Credits

CREW:

Writer/Director	Benjamin Morgan
Producers	Robert Bahar, Antonia Kao
Director of Photography	Donlad Joh
Sound	Mike Restanino
Additional Sound	Pratik Basu, Dave Marmor
Editors	Yana Gorskaya & Chris Terrio
On-Line Editor	Mikael R. Kreuzrlegler
On-Line Supervisor	Alan Starbuck
Make-up and Hair	Jasmine Sara Leverton, Kristin F. Merklings, Dorothy Tucker
Horse Wrangler	Judy Mora
Original Artwork	Adam King

FEATURING:

Joe Gay	Nicholas Downs
Prince Charming	Joe Domenico

INTERVIEWS/SUBJECTS:

Kevin Henderson
Alice Morgan
William Morgan
Tim Cruz
Jason Campbell
Renee Granados
Todd L. Payne
Juan Anzaldo
Ron Eckert
Craig Muench
Paul Czajka
Howard Field
Jack Kellogg
Garrett Gerson
Jonathan Weeks

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT:

Faculty Advisors: Kate Amend, Tomlinson Holman, Judy Irola, Lisa Leeman, Amanda Pope
Teaching Assistants: Marc Clark, Anita Knowles, Heather Ragsdale

MUSIC:

“A Little Riddle,” Killer Tracks #66, Big Band, © 1994 Killer Tracks
“The Dream Lives On,” Killer Tracks #82, Commercial Nostalgia, © 1995 Killer Tracks

Is One of You Eddie? – Synopsis

Stereotypes are challenged as four attractive gay men unfairly judge their neighbor, Eddie, because he doesn't fit the "West Hollywood" mold. When Eddie is visited by a drop-dead-gorgeous-hunk for a massage appointment, their curiosity is piqued. The stud shares how amazing the massage was and how gifted Eddie is to the jaw slacked crew. Will they stand firm and continue to judge Eddie or will they embrace this new side of their neighbor?

The Neighborly Thing – Synopsis

The Neighborly Thing is a chilling tale about a man's overzealous obsession with his upstairs neighbor. When the man encounters a young street couple inhabiting his neighbor's house, his territory is threatened. He intrudes himself on them causing an imminent, and possibly deadly, confrontation.

Is One of You Eddie? / The Neighborly Thing – Filmmaker Biography

Michael Simon

Writer/Director/Producer: *Is One of You Eddie*

Writer/Producer/Actor: *The Neighborly Thing*

Michael Simon is a Chicago native who has spent most of his life in the arts. He studied acting and directing at The University of Illinois' Studio program and in New York at HB Studio. He has done plenty of theatre in Los Angeles, most recently playing the acerbic Leeds in Mark Medoff's *The Wager* under the direction of his acting coach, Arthur Mendoza.

Over the last two years Michael has written two feature length scripts and three shorts. He produced all three shorts, two of which he directed. They have all done well on the festival circuit.

Is One of You Eddie? – Festival Screenings

The Rhode Island International Film Festival
Palm Springs Festival of Shorts

Is One of You Eddie? will appear on the big screen at Los Angeles' famed ArcLight Cinema as part of LA Shorts Fest in September 2006.

The Neighborly Thing – Accolades / Festival Screenings

BEST LEAD ACTING NOMINATIONS (Michael Simon and Samantha Light), Shockerfest International Film Festival.

LA Shorts
Hollywood Film Festival
Shockerfest International Film Festival
Dragon*Con Independent Short Film Festival
GA Action on Film
FAIF Film Festival
Eerie Horror Fest



Is One of You Eddie – Credits

CAST:

Alex	Robbie Laughlin – (<i>On Q Live, Another Gay Movie, Queer Eye for the Straight Girl</i>)
Josh	Craig Olsen
Phillip	Felix Montano
Mick	Leif Lillehaugen
Chad	Jared Edwards
Eddie	Bill Jacobson

CREW:

Writer, Director, Producer	Michael Simon
Director of Photography & Editor	Andy Bates
Featuring music by	Dimitri of Paris
Gaffer	Pete Kelley
Production Designer	Christopher Kinder

The Neighborly Thing – Credits

CAST:

Sebastian	Michael Simon
Beca	Samantha Light
Richie	Joe Paneno

CREW:

Director	Samantha Light
Writer	Michael Simon
Producers	Michael Simon, Samantha Light and Joe Paneno
Director of Photography	Kristian-Jaak Nuudi
Composer	Jeremy Grody
Editors	Kristian-Jaak Nuudi and Samantha Light
Gaffer	Pete Kelley