

# Alluvial

PRESENTS

## Girls' View 2

ANOTHER COLLECTION OF  
AWARD-WINNING LESBIAN-THEMED SHORT FILMS



Approx. 77 Minutes

Color

Street Date: June 16, 2009

Suggested Retail Price: \$22.98

SKU: D5004

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Alluvial Releases Second Collection of Lesbian Shorts

*Girls' View* Series Continues with a Variety of Themes and Award-Winning Content



Los Angeles, California — June 1, 2009 — Alluvial will release *Girls' View 2*, its second volume of award-winning, lesbian-themed short films on DVD June 16, 2009. Isolation, self-acceptance, trust, friendship, self-discovery, love and relationships are just a few of the themes in this sexy, heartwarming, sad and even chilling collection of shorts.

Major retailers and distributors including Amazon.com, TLA Video, Book of the Month Club, Pacific Media Distribution, Baker & Taylor, Inc., 10percent.com, Logo Online Shop and Netflix as well as local community retailers throughout the world carry the first release of *Girls' View*.

The collection begins with *The Rules*, Laura Black's seductive story about a lonely, bored housewife who gets in over her head in a phone sex game with a mysterious woman. The film won an impressive six awards including:

- Winner – “Grand Festival Award – Short Feature” - Berkeley Video and Film Festival (Berkeley, USA)
- Winner – “Crystal Apple – Best of the Fest”- Melbourne Independent Film Festival (Melbourne, USA)
- Winner – “Filmmaker’s Award” – Melbourne Independent Film Festival (Melbourne, USA)
- Winner – “Best Dramatic Short” – Melbourne Independent Film Festival (Melbourne, USA)
- Winner – “Outstanding Artistic Achievement” – Telluride IndieFest (Telluride, USA)
- Winner – “Outstanding Artistic Achievement” – Key West IndieFest (Key West, USA)

Hot girls kissing in a pool; what more could a girl want? How about love, acceptance and a sense of normality? Kelly Carpenter's film *DYKE!* about two schoolgirls comes next in the collection and addresses themes of isolation, self-acceptance and trust. Kate releases Billy's inner desires, only to abandon her in the crazy world that she lead her into; can Billy survive this realm alone? All Billy wants is to fit in. Taken by the hand and left alone to face her fears, who is she afraid of?



Amy Bronson's *Backstroke* follows telling the story of two women, Rome and Julie, who end up in the same psychiatric ward a month after their relationship's sudden end. Julie learns that Rome has amnesia, and thus no recollection of their past relationship. The story unfolds to reveal the sudden end to the relationship between the two women and how Julie decides to deal with past and current consequences. *Backstroke* garnered two awards including **Best Student Film** at the Reel Women Film Festival in Los Angeles as well as the **Audience Award** at the Fear No Film Festival at the Utah Arts Festival in Salt Lake City. It also was selected as one of *Curve Magazine's Best Women's Shorts*.

*Licorice*, by Peter Scobie, next tells a story about a friendship that forms between a heart-broken fiancée and a lost teenage girl as they both discover the vast space in the NSW Blue Mountains and themselves. This coming-of-age drama shows us that there is a world beyond what we know.

The collection ends with Georgia Versluys' film *Snap* about a beautiful girl's life that is turned upside down when a chance meeting sends her spinning into inner turmoil. Should she deny her true feelings for the sake of common acceptance, or follow her heart to unconditional happiness?

**A trailer, high-resolution imagery and a press kit with additional information about the short films can be viewed online at: [www.VillageLighthouse.com/GirlsView2](http://www.VillageLighthouse.com/GirlsView2).** The suggested retail price of *Girls' View 2* is \$22.98 and the running time is approximately 77 minutes. The DVD is available for prebooking online at 10percent.com and Amazon.com and will also be available at local community retailers upon release. **Screeners are available upon request.**

#### **ABOUT ALLUVIAL**

**Alluvial** is an entertainment distribution division of Village Lighthouse, Inc. With a program library including feature-length films, short film compilations, stage shows and television series, Alluvial prides itself in offering hard-to-find content through its international DVD, broadcast, download-to-own and video-on-demand distribution. And while its collection includes award-winning titles, Alluvial believes firmly in its mission to share work from artists whose impressive skills have yet to be widely discovered.

#### **ABOUT VILLAGE LIGHTHOUSE**

**Village Lighthouse, Inc.** is a leading manufacturer, distributor and retailer of consumer products that specializes in publishing and film distribution. Its wholesale divisions, including **10%**, **Alluvial**, **PROVOCATEUR**, **BIG Daddy**, **N10Z** (Intense) and **Greenwood/Cooper** distribute greeting cards, calendars, books, posters, postcards, movies, magnets, male pheromones, cologne and other paper products internationally to over 500 accounts. Village Lighthouse's retail divisions include **10percent.com**, the leading online shopping destination for the gay community, and **OutGreetings** (outgreetings.com), an e-card and event planning service that caters to the gay and lesbian community. For more information about Village Lighthouse and its divisions, visit its corporate web site at [VillageLighthouse.com](http://VillageLighthouse.com).

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## Film Synopses

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### *DYKE!*

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**LOGLINE:**

Kate releases Billy's inner desires, only to abandon her in the crazy world that she lead her into; can Billy survive this realm alone?

**SYNOPSIS:**

Hot girls kissing in a pool; what more could a girl want? Love, acceptance and a sense of normality. *DYKE!* addresses themes of isolation, self-acceptance and trust. All Billy wants is to fit in. Taken by the hand and left alone to face her fears, who is she afraid of?

### *The Rules*

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**LOGLINE:**

A lonely, bored housewife gets in over her head in a phone sex game with a mysterious woman.

**SYNOPSIS:**

Kyla, a lonely bored housewife embarks on a phone sex game with Melanie, a mysterious woman. Kyla wants the relationship to go further. Melanie refuses. When Kyla threatens to end the relationship, Melanie suggests pushing the boundaries. The game escalates and both women learn that some rules shouldn't be broken.

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### *Backstroke*

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**LOGLINE:**

Two women, Rome and Julie, end up in the same psychiatric ward a month after their relationship's sudden end.

**SYNOPSIS:**

Julie is startled to discover that Rome, an ex-lover who she thought was dead, has been admitted to the same psychiatric hospital where Julie now resides. Julie also learns that Rome has amnesia, and thus no recollection of their past relationship. The story unfolds to reveal the sudden end to the relationship between the two women and how Julie decides to deal with past and current consequences.

### *Snap*

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**LOGLINE:**

A beautiful girl's life is turned upside down when a chance meeting sends her spinning into inner turmoil.

**SYNOPSIS:**

Petra is a beautiful girl whose life is turned on its head when a chance meeting sends her spinning into inner turmoil. Should she deny her true feelings for the sake of common acceptance, or follow her heart to unconditional happiness?

### *Licorice*

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**LOGLINE:**

A friendship forms between a heart-broken fiancée and a lost teenage girl as they both discover the vast space in the NSW Blue Mountains and themselves.

**SYNOPSIS:**

A friendship forms between a heart-broken fiancée and a lost teenage girl as they both discover the vast space in the NSW Blue Mountains and themselves. *Licorice* is an eight-minute coming-of-age drama that shows us that there is a world beyond what we know.

## The Rules

### The Rules – Accolades

- Winner – “Grand Festival Award – Short Feature” - Berkeley Video and Film Festival (Berkeley, USA)
- Winner – “Crystal Apple – Best of the Fest” - Melbourne Independent Film Festival (Melbourne, USA)
- Winner – “Filmmaker’s Award” – Melbourne Independent Film Festival (Melbourne, USA)
- Winner – “Best Dramatic Short” – Melbourne Independent Film Festival (Melbourne, USA)
- Winner – “Outstanding Artistic Achievement” – Telluride IndieFest (Telluride, USA)
- Winner – “Outstanding Artistic Achievement” – Key West IndieFest (Key West, USA)

### The Rules – What People Are Saying

“Original! Stunning! *The Rules* breaks all conventions of what moviegoers expect from the usual noir thriller. Laura Black takes edge of your seat to new heights!”

-- Michelle F. Solomon, ABC News/Local 10/Miami

“Another stunner from a different genre altogether is the noir-like *The Rules*, by Laura Black (USA) where a telephone sex game gets out of hand between a mysterious woman and Kyla, a woman whose husband is out of town.”

-- Moira Sullivan, Movie Magazine International.

“*The Rules* is a film that has two women playing sex games over the phone. They decide to break the rules and meet in person. Try to catch this one!”

--Erie Times News.

“WOW! What a thriller! Well-crafted, outstanding production value, and superb acting! A big hit at Telluride IndieFest!”

-- Michael Carr, Director: Telluride IndieFest.

“Intriguing story about power plays with surprising twists.”

--12 Feminale.

### The Rules – Filmmaker Biography / Director’s Statement

#### Laura Black (Director, Writer, Producer)

**Laura Black** has written, produced and directed a number of short films such as *The Nellie Olesons*, winner for “OutStanding Short/Fiction” at *Outfest*, and “Excellence in Comedy” at *Berkeley International Film and Video Festival*, and *surviving the C*, “Honorable Mention/Educational” *Berkeley International Film and Video Festival*. Her other recent shorts include the best comedy nominee *Dance, Dance, Baby!* (*Lakedance International Film Festival*), and the absurdist comedy satire *A Rendezvous...*

Laura has also written and directed a variety of plays including *Drive*, *The Session*, *Karma*, *The Gift*, *Blood*, *Waiting for Bobo*, *Mother Christmas* and *The Doctor is Out*, many of which were “Best Bets,” “Critic’s Pick,” and “Recommended,” and *Seven Days* which was named “One of the ten best of 2000” by *Frontiers Magazine*. She also co-founded the Los-Angeles based theatre company *Playwrights 6*.

Beginning her career with relocation to Los Angeles, Laura graduated from USC Film School. In four years, Laura worked in a myriad of pre-production, production and post-production positions including Script Consultant, Assistant Producer, Key Set PA, Post Production Supervisor and VP Development. She then decided to move on to pursue her own work and has written a number of screenplays including *The Running*, *She Says*, *Being a Boy*, *For the Masses* and *Run the Meat*.

The impetus for *The Rules* came from Laura’s fascination of what lies beneath the surface of people’s psyches. And from the initial idea to the little thought that grew; from “Let’s sit down and talk about making a film” to compiling a crew; from finding out what is and isn’t possible and still going forward (including dealing with the prostitute’s SUV blocking our location and nothing we could do about it due to her Mafia pimp boyfriend), to bringing it all together to the final product, *The Rules* has been an amazing collaborative experience. Laura has felt blessed with the hard work and commitment and new friendships this process has brought her. “I have seen the best of my old and new

friends, and maybe it's wise to keep the "dark" side in the narrative." But one thing Laura has taken with her is that not only should some rules **not** be broken; some rules **should** be broken.

### The Rules – Principal Cast & Crew

Writer, Director, Producer	Laura Black
Producer	Karen Michel
Director of Photography	Keith J. Duggan, SOC
Editor	Randy Carter
Production Designer	Milissa Douponce
Composer	Fixt
Costume Designer	Jeff Cooper

### CAST

Kyla	Diana Cignoni
Melanie	Meeghan Holaway

## **DYKE!**

### DYKE! – Accolades

- Finalist – Production Design, Young Australian Productions Awards 2008
- Finalist - Reelife Short Film Festival 2008

### DYKE! – Filmmaker Biography

#### Kelly Carpenter (Writer and Director)

Currently studying filmmaking at Flinders University, South Australia, 20 year-old Kelly Carpenter is an aspiring director, debuting her career with short film *DYKE!* which has been screened in numerous festivals around the world including Mardi Gras Film Festival, Toronto Gay and Lesbian Film Festival and Reeling: Chicago Gay and Lesbian Film Festival. *DYKE!* Has recently obtained distribution from Alluvial, a division of Village Lighthouse, Inc. and is going to be released worldwide on a short film compilation DVD. Last year, Kelly enjoyed working with a community client when she directed a TV commercial for the Girl Guides which is now being played on prime-time television. She's just finished shooting a short drama with her production company 'Kitsch in Synch' about a teenage girl who conceals her pregnancy. 'Kitsch in Synch' has had phenomenal success with the documentary 'Talk Derby

to Me' on which Kelly was Director of Photography. It follows the Adelaide Roller Derby League and embraces ideals of community and female empowerment. Since its debut screening in November, the film has already been nominated for five awards.

### DYKE! – Principal Cast & Crew

Writer and Director	Kelly Carpenter
Producer	Tom Young
Director of Photography	Kirsty Stark
Editor	David Scarborough
Sound Designer	Dane Hirsinger
Production Designer	Brad Maddern

### CAST:

Billy	Jess Barnden
Kate	Liz Gladwin

## **Backstroke**

### Backstroke – Accolades

- Winner – "Best Student Film" – Reel Women Film Festival (Los Angeles, USA)
- Winner – "Audience Award" – Fear No Film Festival, Utah Arts Festival (Salt Lake City, USA)
- Selected as one of *Curve Magazine's* Best Women's Shorts for 2007

### Backstroke – Filmmaker Biography

Amy Bronson grew up in West Chester, PA and now resides in Salt Lake City, UT. Amy went to the University of Utah for film studies. Her first project, *Backstroke*, was her first narrative film, and was shot on a budget of \$800. *Backstroke* evolved out of Amy's love of *Romeo and Juliet*, which she combined with her own interest in memory - specifically, how two people can have such differing views on the same memory or relationship. Amy has also worked on several documentaries, including one about the Utah State Legislature's constant attempts to ban gay-straight alliances in Utah's high schools. Amy currently has three short films in pre-production, and directs and edits commercials and promos in Utah. She is also currently flirting with a feature-length version of *Backstroke*.

## ***Backstroke – Principal Cast & Crew***

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Writer / Director	Amy Bronson
Producer	Amy Bronson, Linda Eyring
Cinematography	John Samson, Cody Watkins
Location Mixing	Julie Van Der Wal
Final Sound Mix	Steve Pecchia-Bekcum
Editing	Amy Bronson

### **CAST**

Julie	Niki Nielsen
Rome	Amee Walden
Dr. Connelly	Linda Eyring
Rome's Dad	Bill Gillane
Ken	Dave Baggett
Male Patient	Paul Johnson

## ***Licorice***

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### ***Licorice – Director's Statement***

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*Licorice* is about two lost souls. Two deserted girls who learn a bit more about themselves. Julie, a deprived and obnoxious 15 year-old from Blacktown encounters Nicole, 28, who recently separated from her fiancée. Together, they explore the frontier of New South Wales – the Blue Mountains. Like the great pioneers of Blaxland and Lawson, the girls search for a new beginning.

The short is partly inspired by Gillian Armstrong's *High Tide* (1987) starring Judy Davis, Claudia Karvan and Colin Friels. In the final sequence, Judy Davis' character momentarily thinks about leaving her daughter at a roadside diner. I found this predicament fascinating and started thinking of what would happen if a mother *did* abandon her daughter.

As I began researching mother-daughter relationships and cases of child abandonment I found myself drawn to the daughter's perspective and how she would change through such an experience.

I also begun observing friends and colleagues who I felt were living a fairly basic but content lifestyle. With few ambitions and a routine lifestyle they go about their day-to-day chores with little animation or excitement. I

wondered how they would change if their world was turned on its head.

Family friends and involvement in the Blacktown community exposed me to several broken families from which Julie and Claudia are based. A personal detest of vanity-based women's magazines fueled my writing of Julie, a fifteen-year-old going on twenty-five. Like many young people I know, Julie happily settles for mediocrity while dreaming of success. Her unstable upbringing presents a stale brand of life. While Claudia's motives are intentionally left open for interpretation, I feel she believes her daughter is better off without her. Uniquely, the mother and daughter have the same goal but different means.

It is the legacy of my late Grandmother that inspired what would happen to Julie after the abandonment. Mon Russell's persistence that I travel overseas and take every opportunity than I can is a constant personal motivation. The eighty-two-year-old World War Two veteran turned housewife taught me to simply get the most out of each day. I wanted my protagonist to eventually learn this lesson, realizing that there is a world beyond what she knows. In turn, this is the central theme of the film.

Given the scenario, I knew my protagonist would need a companion, a mentor to guide her through her new independence. One of my close friends had recently separated from her fiancé. Her decision to travel abroad to move on and re-discover her independence motivated Nicole's character and backstory. Bringing these two characters together gives the film a *Thelma and Louise* bitter-sweet tone. Friendship, I believe, is one of the most important elements of humanity and integral to our country's ethos.

My objectives for this film are:

- To engage both Australian and international audiences with an understated and unpredictable coming-of-age story.
- To inspire audiences not to settle for mediocrity but to discover more in their lives.
- To give, what many might seem as a niche or feminine story, a universal appeal through engaging performances and storytelling that connects with a wide audience.
- To collaborate with experienced and inexperienced filmmakers from New South



Wales, developing our careers as young filmmakers.

Peter Scobie  
Writer/Director

**Licorice – Filmmaker Biography**

Peter Scobie is a London based Australian film and television professional. Peter graduated from UNSW with an Honours degree majoring in Film and a Graduate Diploma in Film Production at the University of Technology in Sydney in 2007. In 2008, Peter was a Development & Production Manager at the film and television production company, Essential Media & Entertainment, where he also produced a documentary about the Australian Women’s Football team titled *Never Say Die Matildas*.

His past short films have screened at film festivals throughout Australia, Asia and the United States. Peter also has production credits on *The Colony* (SBS, RTE), *Reef Dreams* (ABC), *The Floating Brothel* (ABC, BBC), *Johnny Warren’s Football Mission* (SBS), *Policing The Pacific* (SBS), *The Bridge* (ABC), *Neil Perry’s High Steaks* (Lifestyle Channel), *Is Your House Killing You?* (SBS), *In The Line of Fire* (Nine Network), *Ten Pound Poms* (ABC), *Rodney’s Robot Revolution* (ABC, Arte, CBC) and more recently *How Kevin Bacon Cured Cancer* (ABC, BBC, Discovery Science US, Discovery Channel Canada).

**Licorice – Principal Cast & Crew**

Writer / Director / Editor	Peter Scobie
Producers	Cordelia Moss Peter Scobie
1 <sup>st</sup> AD	Antigone Garner
Director of Photography	Evan Papageorgiou
Camera Assist	Toby Petch
Hair & Make Up	Sarah Pearce
Production Design	Jerusha Bhinde Tori Ferguson Paul Dinning
Continuity	
Stills Photography	
Gaffer	Ted Crosby
Grip	Pip Shapiera
Runner	Ben Scobie

Production Assistant  
Sound Design  
Sound Mix  
Foley Artist  
Composer  
Grade

Aaron Mokohar  
Phil Jeffers  
Mario Vaccaro  
Cameron McKeller  
Jake Simmonds

**CAST**

Nicole	Olivia Mackenzie-Smith
Girl	Nina Fernandez
Mother	Jenn Concepcion

***Snap***

**Snap – Filmmaker Biography**

**Georgia Versluys (Writer, Director and Producer)**

Georgia Versluys was born in Victoria, Australia. She is a lesbian filmmaker, actor, writer and artist. After acting in many short films and studying with Peter Sardi, Georgia soon realized that in addition to being in front of the camera, she desired to work behind the camera. *Snap* is Georgia’s first film. She is currently in the process of writing her next short film.

**Snap – Principal Cast & Crew**

Director / Producer	Georgia Versluys
Executive Producer	Kel Dolen
Writer	Gregg Carse
Director of Photography	Georgia Versluys
Editor	David Parket A.C.S.
Music	James Cole
Sound	Keith Moore
Sound Supervisor	LABSONICS
SFX Editor	Steve Witherow
Studio Manager	Todd Shatlock
Visual Effects	Ian Williams
VFX Producer	Hysteria Productions James Cole

**CAST**

Petra	Georgia Versluys
Eva	Eleni Meros