

# cinematheque

CINEMATHEQUE PRESS RELEASE -- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **UW CINEMATHEQUE PRESENTS THREE NIGHTS OF INDIE HORROR**

**ACTOR PAT HEALY IN PERSON FEB. 17 & FILMMAKER JOE  
SWANBERG IN PERSON FEB. 24**

In February, the UW Cinematheque will offer the first Madison-area theatrical screenings of three acclaimed new works by American independent filmmakers, *The Innkeepers*, *Silver Bullets* and *The Oregonian*. Each film offers its own unique contribution to the horror genre.

In Ti West's *The Innkeepers*, the modern ghost story is played as much for laughs as scares: a pair of misfit concierges (Sara Paxton and Pat Healy) stuck covering a decrepit hotel's final weekend with round-the-clock shifts kill time by idly hunting the hotel's legendary ghost. But the arrival of increasingly mysterious guests (including a psychic played by *Top Gun* pinup Kelly McGillis) suggests that the duo is in danger of becoming ghosts themselves. "*The Innkeepers* astonishingly creates characters who are not only specter-prey...Ghost movies like this, depending on imagination and craft, are much more entertaining than movies that scare you by throwing a cat at the camera." (Roger Ebert, *Chicago Sun-Times*)

Just announced: Actor Pat Healy will appear in person at the screening of *The Innkeepers* at 7 p.m. on Friday, February 17 in 4070 Vilas Hall. Healy's career has included appearances in such major studio films as Paul Thomas Anderson's *Magnolia*, Michael Bay's *Pearl Harbor*, Terry Zwigoff's *Ghost World*, David Gordon Green's *Undertow*, Werner Herzog's *Rescue Dawn*, and Andrew Dominik's *The Assassination of Jesse James By the Coward Robert Ford*. He has also appeared in significant works of independent cinema, such as Bob Byington's *Harmony and Me* and Craig Zobel's *Great World of Sound*. Healy is also one of the principal cast members of Zobel's new film, *Compliance*, which premiered to a controversial reception at last month's Sundance Film Festival. Healy is also a veteran screenwriter who wrote several episodes for Season Two of HBO's drama series *In Treatment*.

Filmmaker Joe Swanberg's *Silver Bullets* takes a strong deviation from the usual horror movie scare tactics in favor of a more meditative approach that

explores the intersection of the personal and artistic lives of its main characters. Claire (Kate-Lynn Sheil), an actress, is cast by director Ben (Ti West) in a high-profile horror film while her filmmaker boyfriend, Ethan (Swanberg), casts Claire's best friend Charlie (Amy Seimetz) as his girlfriend in his own low-budget autobiographical project. "[*Silver Bullets*] is the closest American equivalent to a film by Philippe Garrel, not just in its emotional world but in its harsh, still, and mood-heavy images." (Richard Brody, *The New Yorker*)

As with most of his independent productions (*Lol, Hannah Takes the Stairs, Nights and Weekends, Uncle Kent*), the prolific and multi-talented Swanberg directed, wrote, produced, shot, edited, and stars. He will be on hand to introduce and answer questions following the screening in 4070 Vilas Hall at 7 p.m. on Friday, February 24.

Calvin Lee Reeder's psychotronic *The Oregonian* will screen for the February 27, 7 p.m. edition of Cinematheque's Marquee Monday series, presented in collaboration with the Wisconsin Union Directorate Film Committee at Union South's Marquee Theater. In *The Oregonian*, a young woman (*True Blood's* Lindsay Pulsipher) awakens after crashing her car and heads off on foot toward an unknown destination. The sights and sounds she encounters along her route lead our heroine on a disturbing journey of self discovery. One of the most creepily effective films in recent memory, this 81-minute nightmare thriller combines the best elements of filmmakers like Lynch, Roeg, and Tarkovsky, and recalls Herk Harvey's indie horror classic *Carnival of Souls*, but inventive director Reeder's resulting film is like none other you've seen before. *The Oregonian* has been unnerving audiences on the festival circuit since its Sundance premiere. It will be preceded by Reeder's 2005 short film, *Piledriver*.

### **Screening information:**

***The Innkeepers* – Pat Healy in person!**

**USA | 2011 | 35mm | 100 min.**

**Director: Ti West**

**Cast: Sara Paxton, Pat Healy, Kelly McGillis, Lena Dunham**

**Friday, February 17, 7 p.m.**

**4070 Vilas Hall, 821 University Avenue**

***Silver Bullets* – Joe Swanberg in person!**

**USA | 2011 | HD Projection | 70 min.**

**Director: Joe Swanberg**

**Cast: Kate-Lynn Sheill, Joe Swanberg, Ti West, Jane Adams, Amy Seimetz**

**Friday, February 24, 7 p.m.**

**4070 Vilas Hall, 821 University Avenue**

***The Oregonian***

**USA | 2011 | HD-Projection | 81min**

**Director: Calvin Lee Reeder**

**Cast: Lindsay Pulsipher, Robert Longstreet, Matt Olsen**

**Monday, February 27, 7 p.m.**

**Marquee Theater at Union South, 1308 W. Dayton Street**

**All screenings are free and open to the public.**

Our website: **<http://cinema.wisc.edu>**

**For additional information, contact:**

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**See you at the Movies!**

**Jim Healy, Director of Programming**