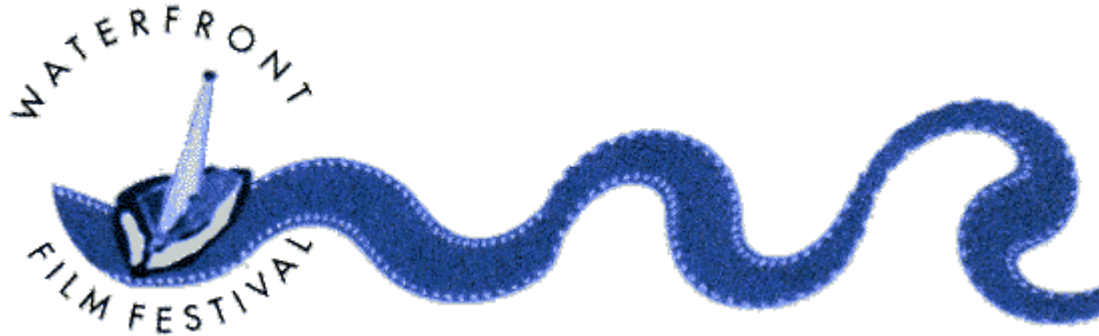


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Films Shown at Waterfront Win Awards, Gain Exposure

SAUGATUCK, MICHIGAN – Films shown at the Waterfront Film Festival last June have gone on to win prestigious awards and gain national – even international – attention. A sampling:

Vice, which made its Midwest premiere at Waterfront 2001, went on to win Best Feature Film at festivals in Memphis, Cleveland, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. It was a finalist in 15 international festivals, including Dublin, Ireland, and won cash prizes in Chicago, Cleveland, and Memphis. A film by Academy Award winner John Woodward, *Vice* – based on actual court transcripts – is a hilarious look at the justice system. Starring Bo Hopkins, Maxine Bahns, Randall “Tex” Cobb, and Irv Gorman, it currently plays on TVN Pay Per View, and video and cable are expected to follow. “Thunderous laughter at the Saturday night sell-out screening (at Waterfront) was especially nice ... we made some friends, some good

connections, and the audience reaction to the film made us very confident that people enjoy the film and the humor,” said Woodward, who wrote and directed the film. Tammy Stones produced.

A Better Way to Die, starring writer-director Scott Wiper (who also acted in *Pearl Harbor*) as well as Lou Diamond Phillips, Natasha Henstridge, and Andre Braugher, was purchased by Sony Screengems/Columbia Tri-Star and HBO. It was an HBO World Premiere Title – which means it had its premiere on HBO on a Friday night at 9 p.m. The action-thriller is currently out on DVD and video, and can be found at most video rental stores. The movie currently runs on HBO, Cinemax, and Showtime several times per week. “Thanks for the awesome festival! It was a blast!” Wiper said.

The Bread, My Sweet was the romantic comedy of Waterfront 2001 that people are still talking about. Starring *ER*’s Kristin Minter and *Happy Days*’ Scott Baio, and written and directed by Melissa Martin, the film – about a dying woman’s wish to see her only daughter married – mesmerized not only audiences in Saugatuck but people all over the U.S. *The Bread*, which made its Midwest premiere at Waterfront, went on to win the Grand Jury Prize at Worldfest-Houston, and Best Dramatic Feature at both the Santa Monica and Marco Island international film festivals. “Waterfront is a gem of a festival,” producer Adrienne Wehr said. “By remaining non-competitive, a warm and welcoming environment is created for the filmmakers to meet and greet one another.” *The Bread* recently received a worldwide distribution deal with Panorama Entertainment. For more information, visit the film’s Website at www.thebreadmysweet.tv.

Love and Support, about a fellow who is hapless in love, made its national premiere at Waterfront and went on to win Best Screenplay at the Dances With Films Festival in Los Angeles and other awards around the country. It starred Joe Furey (NBC’s *Watching Ellie*), who also wrote and directed the film; Pat Finn (NBC’s *Ed*); and Kristin Datillo (Showtime’s *The Chris Isaacs Show*). “Waterfront was great because it helped us get the attention of other festivals,” Furey said.

Life and Debt, a documentary about the impact of the International Monetary Fund and other governmental institutions on the people of Jamaica, is currently screening at independent movie theaters all over the U.S.

It made its Midwest premiere at Waterfront and recently aired on PBS. It has received numerous awards and accolades, including Best Documentary at the Jamerican Film Festival. Producer Stephanie Black has created a number of award-winning documentaries as well as directed live-action documentary segments for Children's Television Workshop and music videos for such artists as Ziggy Marley and the Melody Makers. For more information on *Life and Debt*, visit the Website www.lifeanddebt.org.

The Same, a film "short" starring Josh Hartnett, made its Midwest premiere at Waterfront and went on to win awards at the New Orleans Film Festival, Crossroads Film Festival, and Texas Film festival.

Waterfront 2001 drew 250 submissions from independent filmmakers nationwide. Nineteen feature-length films and 17 shorts were presented – to rave reviews by both fans and critics. "I discovered some wonderful new films that I'm enthusiastically recommending to other outlets," said Robert Hawk, a New York City-based independent film consultant and producer as well as Sundance Advisory Selection Committee member.

The fourth annual Waterfront Film Festival is this June 6-9 in Saugatuck, Mich. Entertainment professionals from Los Angeles, New York, and Michigan created the Waterfront Film Festival in 1999 to provide a "middle coast" venue for independent filmmakers eager to show their work to sophisticated audiences. For more information, visit the official festival Website at www.waterfrontfilm.com.

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