



For Immediate Release

March 3 / Le 3 mars 2008

www.genieawards.ca

Sarah Polley Honoured With Claude Jutra Award at 2008 Genie Awards

Annual award for first-time film directors

(Toronto, ON) February 19, 2008—The Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television (ACCT) announced today that Sarah Polley will be honoured with the 2008 Claude Jutra Award for her film *Away From Her*, nominated for 7 Genie Awards. The award will be presented to Polley at the 28th Annual Genie Awards on Monday, March 3rd at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

This annual Award recognizes outstanding achievement by a first-time feature film director and was established in 1993 in honour of renowned Quebec director, the late Claude Jutra.

A rising talent behind the camera, Sarah Polley has been writing and directing for the last six years. She has directed the short films *The Best Day of My Life* and *Don't Think Twice* as well as *The Harp*, an episode for the television series *The Shield Stories*. In 2003, her critically acclaimed dramatic short *I Shout Love* garnered an Actra Award and a Genie Award. A multifaceted actress, she made her transition from child to adult star with her Genie-nominated performance in *The Sweet Hereafter* and since then has been adding to her growing portfolio of challenging roles in film and television.

Away From Her is the lyrical screenplay adaptation of celebrated author Alice Munro's short story *The Bear Came Over the Mountain*. It recounts a beautifully moving love story between a husband and wife of 50 years - Grant (Gordon Pinsent) and Fiona (Julie Christie) - who are faced with the power and fragility of memory.

Written and directed by Sarah Polley and produced by Daniel Iron, Simone Urdl and Jennifer Weiss, *Away From Her* is a Film Farm production and is distributed by Mongrel Media.

The 2008 Genie Awards from the Metro Toronto Convention Centre will be broadcast on Monday, March 3rd at 10pm ET/PT on the E! Television Network and IFC.

For full details on the 28th Annual Genie Awards, go to www.genieawards.ca.

.../more

PREMIER / PREMIERS PARTENAIRES



LEAD / GRANDS PARTENAIRES



FUJIFILM

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS

BROADCAST PARTNER / DIFFUSEUR OFFICIEL



MEDIA PARTNER / PARTENAIRE MÉDIA

PLAYBACK
ABOUT PRODUCTION, BROADCASTING & INTERACTIVE MEDIA IN CANADA

SPONSORS / COMMANDITAIRES



About the Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television (ACCT)

The ACCT is a national, non-profit, professional association dedicated to the promotion, recognition and celebration of exceptional achievements in the Canadian film and television industries. Created in 1979, and today unifying almost 4,000 industry professionals across Canada, the Academy has become a vital and integral force in the industry.

- ❖ Best Motion Picture sponsored by Telefilm Canada
- ❖ Achievement in Overall Sound sponsored by Deluxe
- ❖ Achievement in Music - Original Score sponsored by HMV Canada Inc.
- ❖ Best Documentary sponsored by Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival
- ❖ Achievement in Cinematography sponsored by Kodak Canada Entertainment Imaging
- ❖ Best Live Action Short Drama sponsored by Movieola—The Short Film Channel
- ❖ Special Award for Outstanding Achievement in Make-Up sponsored by M A C Cosmetics
- ❖ Golden Reel Award sponsored by Zip.tv

Media Contact:

Chris McDowall
Holmes Creative Communications
(416) 628-5648/office
(416) 648-5651/cell
cmcdowall@hccink.com