



MINNEAPOLIS - ST. PAUL
24th INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

April 20-30th, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 18, 2006

MEDIA CONTACT:
Laura Mylan, 612.237.2815

**"SWEET LAND" Wins Minneapolis-St. Paul
International Film Festival Audience Poll Award**

"Fire and Ice" Wins Best Documentary

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., May 18, 2006: The Minneapolis-St. Paul International Film Festival announced today results of its 24th Annual Audience Poll. Festival-goers were asked to rank films on a scale of one to five, with one being "Poor" and five being "Excellent". The results are in and the winners are:

AUDIENCE PRIZE:
(Top Score Overall)

Sweet Land (USA), directed by Minnesota's own Ali Selim

BEST DOCUMENTARY

Fire and Ice: The Winter War of Finland and Russia, (USA/Finland), directed by Ben Strout

BEST CHILDISH FILM:

Hoppity Goes to Town (USA/Revival), directed by Dave Fleischer

BEST OF FEST:
*(The next best 10 films,
in descending order)*

Cave of the Yellow Dog, (Mongolia) directed by Byambasuren Davaa
Live and Become (Israel/France), directed by Radu Mihaileanu
Mother of Mine (Finland), directed by Klaus Haro
Tapas (Spain), directed by José Corbacho, Juan Cruz
Syrian Bride (Israel/France/Germany), directed by Eran Riklis
As it is in Heaven (Sweden), directed by Kay Pollak
Luna de Avellaneda (Argentina/Spain), directed by Juan José Campanella
A Touch of Spice (Greece/Turkey), directed by Tassos Boulmetis
Look Both Ways (Australia), directed by Sarah Watt
Al Franken: God Spoke (USA), directed by Nick Doob, Chris Hegedus

"This year's line-up proved to be one of the strongest ever," says Festival Artistic Director Al Milgrom.

"With 13 sold-out shows, including two sold-out screenings for **Sweet Land**, the 24th Annual Fest was a resounding success."

"Nearly half of the films shown in this year's Festival scored in the 'excellent' or 'very good' categories, with scores of 4.0 or higher," continues Milgrom. "The Scandinavian films did particularly well, with two films making our Best of Fest list, and **Fire and Ice** winning Best Documentary. The sold-out screening of our Minnesota Documentaries program also deserves honorable mention."

###