

# Press Release



Monday 3 August 2009 - for immediate release

## **EM Media announces new wave of filmmaking talent**

EM Media, the Regional Screen Agency for the East Midlands, is delighted to announce the latest round of commissions through DV Shorts; EM Media's digital short film talent development, training and production intervention. Now in its seventh year DV Shorts continues to go from strength to strength with films winning UK and international awards and going on to secure international sales. While the filmmakers involved have made real progression in their careers, with some moving on to direct their feature film debuts.

EM Media is delighted to announce the filmmakers who have recently been commissioned to make a range of films through DV Shorts, from animation to documentaries. The filmmakers are:

- Andy Taylor Smith
- Dave Smith
- Deborah Haywood
- Peter Baynton
- Richard Porter
- Roger Hadfield
- Sasha Andrews
- Sally-Anne Betts
- Tony Kelly

After launching DV Shorts 2008/09 in the autumn last year EM Media received 80 submissions from filmmaking talent across the East Midlands. From these submissions a total of 16 projects were selected for development, which involved regular script meetings and specially devised filmmaker training through the Script Factory. All the projects were then submitted for the commissioning round, from which a total of nine projects were commissioned.

All the filmmakers are working with talented regional producers to realise their ideas:

- Jack Suckling
- Joe Walker (Elephant Gun Films)
- Mike Knowles (Made Up North Productions)
- Nicola Clayton (Sodalite Pictures)
- Richard Knight (Freshly Made Films)
- Tina Pawlik (Anthem Films)
- Tristan Goligher

For further information or full filmmaker/producer biogs please contact Sally Hodgson, Communications Executive or Emma Hewitt, Communications Coordinator, EM Media on 0115 934 9090 or via email at [firstname.lastname@em-media.org.uk](mailto:firstname.lastname@em-media.org.uk).

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## Notes to editors

- EM Media is the Regional Screen Agency for England's East Midlands.
- Working in harmony with a range of partners locally, nationally and internationally, EM Media secures finance, nurtures talent, invests in success and stimulates growth and innovation in the Film, Games, TV and Interactive sectors; ensuring East Midlands' digital industries lead and compete globally.
- EM Media has financed over 70 distinctive and innovative digital media projects, including the development and production of 31 feature films, leading the creation of a national profile for the East Midlands as a film-led region.
- Financed productions include:
  - Justin Molotnikov's *Crying With Laughter*
  - Karl Golden's *Pelican Blood*
  - Samantha Morton's directorial debut *The Unloved*
  - Brian Percival's *A Boy Called Dad*
  - Alexis Dos Santos's *Unmade Beds*
  - Nicolas Winding Refn's *Bronson*
  - Kenny Glenaan's *Summer*
  - Duane Hopkins' *Better Things*
  - Martin Radich's *Crack Willow*
  - Steven Sheil's *Mum and Dad*
  - Jeanie Finlay's *Goth Cruise*
- Award-winning film investments include the BAFTA and BIFA winning *Control* (Anton Corbijn) and the BAFTA award-winning *This Is England* (Shane Meadows) (*Best British Film 2007*).
- EM Media has also co-financed the first slate of films from Warp X, the low-budget digital film initiative which has produced:
  - *A Complete History of My Sexual Failures*
  - *Donkey Punch*
  - *Hush*
  - *Bunny & The Bull*
  - *She, A Chinese*
  - *All Tomorrow's Parties*
- EM Media has co-financed the development and production of games and virtual worlds with European Regional Development finance, including *Space Ark*, *mixm8*, *Beauty Salon*, *Geon: Emotions*, *Bugs of War*, *Manifest*, *Spell Souls* and *Hunter's World*.
- Visit [www.em-media.org.uk](http://www.em-media.org.uk).

