

## CINEMA ONE PRESS RELEASE

### "Confessional" in Cebu going back to its roots

The multi-awarded independent digital film **Confessional** has gone a long way since it was first shown in the **2007 Cinema One Originals Film Festival**. Going through a lot of stringent scrutiny by only the best film adjudicators and critics, it passed through a baptism of fire and victoriously emerged first placer in the race for excellence. **Confessional** has earned its bragging rights and is one of the most praised, admired and talked about Cinema One Original Film right now.

One of the positive reviews on the film was given by internet blogger Francis Cruz saying, "The film does not show any sign of first-time jitters, whether it be in the technical or the creative side. It is handsomely made, surprisingly sleek and very entertaining." Some members of the press who were able to view the film had only positive things to share. Columnist Boy Romero wrote, "The film was really beautifully done. Simple yet with meaning and depth. Truly a film that everyone should watch." Even the five-member jury, composed of directors Lav Diaz and Olive Lamasan, Manunuri member Gigi Alfonso, actor Cesar Montano and RoadRunner's Manet Dayrit, was very much impressed by the indie filmmakers showcase of creativity and ingenuity as they describe **Confessional** as "an intimate film...elevated into a social commentary." Jessica Zafra highly recommends the movie and described it as a very clever movie. Reviewers, online bloggers and Pinoy movie enthusiasts have indeed unanimously listed **Confessional** as one of the best movies of the year.

With all these positive feedback, director Jerrold Tarog who had a collaborative effort with Ruel Dahis Antipuesto simply states the reason for making his creation, "We made this film to introduce ourselves to the public."

Entirely shot in Cebu with Cebuano as the main language of the film and with Cebuanos as part of the cast, the digital film **Confessional** will now hold a special screening there.

**Confessional** features a small-time filmmaker, Ryan Pastor, who unexpectedly meets a former politician. This politician decides to confess his sins – all the crimes he committed while in office - before Ryan's camera. As Ryan captures the bitter truths and intriguing revelations by the politician, Ryan finds out a weave of sweet lies and buried secrets which can make the politician either a criminal or a very honest man.

This masterpiece by Jerrold Tarog garnered an amazing 7 awards during the Awards Night of Cinema One Originals 2007 namely: Best Picture, Best Director for Jerrold Tarog and Ruel Dahis Antipuesto, Best Supporting Actor for Publio Brioness III playing the slimy and corrupt mayor, Best Screenplay for Jerrold Tarog, Best Sound for Jerrold Tarog, Best Editing for Jerrold Tarog and a Special Award from Star Cinema.

As the premiere movie cable channel in the country, **Cinema One** is known for showcasing movies that have a right mix of entertainment and substance. Borne out of their vision and belief in the Filipino talent, Cinema One is contributing to the roster of quality Filipino movies via the Cinema One Originals which started in 2005. This is a venue for local geniuses to produce digital films on a limited budget but not compromising content. It has turned out to be a success as Filipinos into filmmaking have victoriously showcased their passion, talent, creativity and ingenuity through this awaited annual event.

Catch this special screening of **Confessional** on **February 29, 2008, Friday at the SM Cebu Cinema 1 at 7-9pm and at 9-11pm.**

## **Confessional**

### ***A Film That Reeks of Lies and Truth in the 2007 Cinema One Originals***

Premiere movie cable channel Cinema One who spearheads the yearly digital film festival Cinema One Originals will stun audiences with the digital movie Confessional, when it runs from November 30 to December 2 at the Cinema 1 of the Trinoma North Edsa Mall and Cinema 1 of Glorietta 4, Ayala Makati.

True to its aim to set new standards, break new grounds and uplift Filipino moviemaking, writer-director Jerrold Tarog and cinematographer Ruel Dahis-Antipuesto weave a brutally frank and revelatory documentary drama where crimes of specific government authorities are exposed. Confessional becomes a kaleidoscope of honesty from falsehood, torment from guilt as Jerrold Tarog displays his ingenuity and expertise in musical direction and sound engineering also manifested in his Cinemalaya short film entries.

Starring exceptional non-actors from Cebu Publio Brioness III, David Barril, Greg Fernandez, Donna Gimeno and Owee Silva, Confessional reels through packs of lies and the lies underneath to ironically show the awful truth how and why crime and drugs is always interspersed like a normal way of life in Cebu. Ryan Pastor is a man who knows this by heart. Smothered by guilt and paralyzed by emotional frustrations all because of the lies he's been getting from just about anything, the small-time filmmaker decides to go to Cebu to document the Sinulog festival. There he stumbles upon a truth he didn't ask for and is reluctant to touch. One of his subjects, former politician Lito Calisto who may or may not be dying, decides to confess all the crimes he committed while in office, all before Ryan's camera. What follows is a story or revelations, bitter truths, coming from the heart of a criminal or...an honest man.

Confessional is one of the finalists of the 2007 Cinema One Originals that will be finally screened on November 30 to December during the digital moviefest of the annual Cinema One Originals. It will be shown together with the other competing entries: Rico Ilarde's horror ALTAR starring Zanjoe Marudo, a bittersweet romantic MALING AKALA from Veronica Velasco and Pablo Biglang-Awa starring Jodi Santa Maria and Victor Basa, the OFW family melodrama PRINSESA from Lawrence Fajardo and Adolf Alix's highly-dramatic story on two brothers and poverty titled TAMBOLISTA starring Jiro Manio, Sid Lucero and Coco Martin. Produced by Creative Programs Inc. (CPI), one of the subsidiaries of ABS-CBN, the 2007 Cinema One Originals project celebrates its third year with an awards night on December 01 at the grand ballroom of the Renaissance Hotel Makati at 7pm.

