

LITTLE BIG TOP

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INDIE FILM PUTS A NEW SMILE ON THE SCREEN

Filmmaker Ward Roberts Screens World Premiere at Heartland Film Festival

Los Angeles – Fly High Films announced today the World Premiere screening of their new feature-length film, LITTLE BIGTOP, to play at the Heartland Film Festival on Saturday, October 21, 2006, 4:30 p.m., AMC Greenwood Park Cinema.

Written and directed by Ward Roberts, whose short film, THE BOY SCOUT, received multiple awards and popular reception on the festival circuit in 2002. Roberts is back with his current independent film, LITTLE BIG TOP, which is a personal story taking place in Peru, Indiana (his hometown). Known as “The Circus Capitol of the World,” the filmmaker wrote a script about an aging, out of work clown who returns to his small hometown with the goal to spend the rest of his days in a drunken stupor. This dark-comedy deals with the struggles and demons of Seymour Smiles (played by horror-cult fave Sid Haig). It is only when a childhood friend (played by Office Space’s Richard Riehle) convinces him to help the town’s amateur clown squad, that Seymour is thrust back to the place he fears most . . . the spotlight.

“I wanted to make a film that not only portrayed this charming midwestern town I grew up in and love, but to also show off its unique tourism gem, known as the Peru Amateur Circus. This unique yearly event is embraced by the people of

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Indiana and considered a right of passage for many Peru youth, including myself,” stated Ward Roberts.

“But, as a filmmaker who is interested in exploring the trials and tribulations of everyday life and human flaws, I wanted to create a very complex character, like Seymour Smiles, who has seen highs and lows in his career and personal life,” Roberts elaborated. “Finding a veteran actor like Sid Haig to play the role, made the character come to life. Whether it’s family, friends, or ourselves, Seymour’s journey is something we can all relate to. Because of this understanding and empathy, we all pull for him to overcome and conquer his fears.”

The film was produced by Christina Mauro and Jessica Petelle-Slagle.

For more details about the film, visit www.littlebigtopmovie.com or www.myspace.com/littlebigtop. For information about the Heartland Film Festival Screening information call (317) 464-9405 or go to www.heartlandfilmfestival.org