

- For immediate release -

Announcing the World Premiere of HEAVEN ADORES YOU, a documentary film about the life and music of Elliott Smith, at the 57th annual San Francisco International Film Festival

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HEAVEN ADORES YOU
by director Nickolas Rossi

WORLD PREMIERE
San Francisco International
Film Festival

SCREENINGS
Monday, May 5 at 9:00 pm
Wednesday, May 7 at 3:45 pm
Thursday, May 8 at 6:00 pm
at Sundance Kabuki Cinemas

SFFIF web site: <http://sffs.org>

Heaven Adores You web site: <http://heavenadoresyou.com>

San Francisco, April 1st, 2014 – ***Heaven Adores You***, the directorial debut by Nickolas Rossi, is an intimate, meditative inquiry into the life and music of Elliott Smith (1969 - 2003). By threading the music of Elliott Smith through the dense, yet often isolating landscapes of the three major cities he lived in -- Portland, New York City, Los Angeles -- ***Heaven Adores You*** presents a visual journey and an earnest review of the singer's prolific songwriting and the impact it continues to have on fans, friends, and fellow musicians. Rossi, a NYC-based director and cinematographer who briefly met Elliott Smith in 1998, is presenting his first feature documentary as a World Premiere at the 57th Annual San Francisco Film Festival.

From Rossi's Director's Statement:

“Heaven Adores You came about over many years. I wanted to build on the love that the fans had for Elliott. I wanted to do something that honored his contributions to the music scene, to the global community, and to my own personal journey.

What if we could make something about the *life and music* of Elliott Smith, instead of just focusing on his *death*? What if we could make something where Elliott was able to narrate the journey of his life and have his friends support his incredible story?

Heaven Adores You aims to be just that: A visual, melodic love letter of sorts to a musical genius, in the environments that he knew best: Portland, New York, and Los Angeles. By having

Elliott guide us himself, via recorded conversations and interviews, I am hopeful that he can tell his own story once and for all, surrounded by the people who loved him dearly.”

Thanks to Producer Kevin Moyer and his personal connection to Elliott (he attended the same high school as Elliott in downtown Portland) and Director Nickolas Rossi’s long-time attention and commitment to this project, **Heaven Adores You** was able to earn credibility and respect within Elliott’s tight circle of friends and associates. As such, **Heaven Adores You** is the only project on the life and music of Elliott Smith that can boast 30+ onscreen interviews with many of Elliott’s closest allies - including former-girlfriend and musical collaborator Joanna Bolme, and official archivist and long-time friend Larry Crane.

Producer Marc Smolowitz further notes that premiering **Heaven Adores You** in San Francisco is a kind homecoming for the project. “Nickolas has been my cinematographer on several past films that were produced out of San Francisco.” He added, “Last summer, we decided to finish **Heaven Adores You** out of San Francisco, a natural extension of many years of working together out of this City, one that is also a global center for documentary production. It makes perfect sense to world premiere this film at the San Francisco International Film Festival.”

HEAVEN ADORES YOU is produced by Jeremiah Gurzi (Her, Entourage), Kevin Moyer, and Marc Smolowitz (The Power Of Two, The Campaign, Still Around). The film is executive produced by Charles Akin (Misdirected, Firecracker) Wesley Hirni (Barry Goes to the Cabaret, Firecracker), Noah Lang (Sunbelt Express, The Monkey's Paw, Concealed Carriers), and Haroula Rose (Fruitvale Station).

For more information about the film, please visit: <http://heavenadoresyou.com>

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