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Film Director
Catherine Hardwicke

The Fifth Annual Other Venice Film Festival
- Maverick Filmmaker Honoree -

Venice, CA, August 2008 – The Other Venice Film Festival is proud to announce that this year’s Maverick Spotlight Award will be going to Venice local Catherine Hardwicke. Catherine exemplifies everything that Venice, and independent filmmaking, is all about.

The Maverick Spotlight Award is presented to a Maverick filmmaker who resides in the coastal community of Venice Beach. As Venice is well-known for its artistic innovation, progressive thinking and creative spirit, Catherine is the perfect recipient for such an award. Her 2005 Sony Pictures release, "*Lords of Dogtown*", starring Heath Ledger and Emile Hirsch, was a love letter to the Venice of the 1970's, and primarily shot in the roughest of its neighborhoods. Past recipients of the Maverick Spotlight Award have been given to Roger Corman, Werner Herzog, Tony Bill and Stacy Peralta.

On our festival’s opening night, we will be screening Catherine’s breakthrough directorial debut film, "*Thirteen*", starring Holly Hunter, Evan Rachel Wood and Nikki Reed. "*Thirteen*" chronicles the exciting, but troubled life of a teenage girl growing up in Southern California. Catherine is currently directing "*Twilight*", a vampire romance based on Stephenie Meyer's worldwide bestseller, which stars Kristen Stewart of "*Into the Wild*" and "*Panic Room*" along with Robert Pattinson of "*Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*". "*Twilight*" is set to be released on November 21st by Summit Entertainment .

For more information, please visit our website at www.othervenicefilmfestival.com or contact Festival Director Ruby de la Casas. On-line ticket reservations will be available starting Sept. 15 at www.othervenicefilmfestival.com and will also be sold at the door (based on availability). Opening Night ticket prices will be \$20 advanced purchase and \$30 on the day of the festival.

Look forward to seeing you there.