



MEDIA ALERT

Festival Contact: Dana Ballesterro
Phone: +1 305-237-3768
Cell: +1 305-244-9112
dana@miamifilmfestival.com

MDC Contact: Juan Mendieta
Phone: +1 305-237-7611
jmendiet@mdc.edu

For Immediate Release:
March 8, 2011

Andy Garcia, Cast and Crew of Made-in-Miami Indie Feature *Magic City Memoirs* to Appear at Miami Dade College's 2011 Miami International Film Festival

*Press conference, Red Carpet and sold-out World Premiere at Miami's historic
Gusman Center for the Performing Arts to be held Friday, March 11*

Miami, FL—Miami-bred actor, director and producer Andy Garcia returns to the Miami International Film Festival (MIFF) on Friday, March 11, with his latest project, the World Premiere of *Magic City Memoirs*, the already-sold-out independent feature-length film directed, produced, written by and starring an ensemble cast and crew of Miami locals. Garcia serves as the film's executive producer. He attended the Festival in 2010 to promote *City Island*, and has brought many films to Miami in recent years, including *Cachao: Uno más*, *The Lost City* and *Modigliani*. Daughter Dominik Garcia-Lorido (*City Island*) is a primary character in the ensemble cast.

Tickets for the March 11th World Premiere have been sold-out since Feb. 22, and a second screening added for Saturday, March 12th has only a few tickets remaining. MIFF is produced and presented annually by Miami Dade College.

Magic City Memoirs is the story of three Miami high school friends — Mikey, Eric and Angel — who revel in their world of private school privilege and lax parental oversight while living large on the hip-hop lifestyle of parties, fast cars, fast boats and easy sex. Miami director Aaron Salgado and producer J.D. Freixas capture the texture and energy of this pulse-pounding tropical paradise as only true insiders could. The cast features many locals and natives, including Garcia-Lorido, Natalie Martinez (*Detroit 1-8-7*), Jordi Vilasuso (*All My Children*) and newcomers J.R. Villarreal as Mikey, Michael Cardelle as Eric and Andres Dominguez as Angel.

The original screenplay is a collaboration between Salgado and Freixas, whose previous project, the 2006 short film *Jamaica Motel*, won top honors at the Miami Short Film Festival. *Magic City Memoirs* is their feature film debut.

Garcia, Salgado, Freixas and Garcia-Lorido, as well as other key members of the cast, are scheduled to attend the Festival for the film's press conference, Red Carpet and World Premiere screening.

MIFF runs March 4-13, 2011.

WHO: *Magic City Memoirs* cast and crew: **Andy Garcia, Aaron Salgado, J.D. Freixas, Dominik Garcia-Lorido, Natalie Martinez, Jordi Vilasuso, J.R. Villarreal,**

Michael Cardelle, Andres Dominguez and veteran character actor **Julio Oscar Mechoso** (*Castle*), among others. (*Subject to change.*)

EVENTS: **Press Conference: Friday, March 11 at 11:00 a.m., The Betsy South Beach** rooftop lounge, 1440 Ocean Drive, Miami Beach. (*Only accredited and approved media will be admitted.*)

Red Carpet: Friday, March 11 at 6:00 p.m., Gusman Center for the Performing Arts, 174 East Flagler Street, downtown Miami. (*Only accredited and approved media will be permitted to cover the Red Carpet.*)

SOLD-OUT World Premiere: Friday, March 11, 6:45 p.m., Gusman Center for the Performing Arts. Complimentary tickets reserved for accredited press have been distributed and no more are available.

INTERVIEWS: A VERY LIMITED number of exclusive, advance one-on-one interviews have already been scheduled with Andy Garcia, Dominik Garcia-Lorido and key cast members. If an interview has not already been scheduled with you or your news organization as of the date of this media alert, please DO NOT request one; the schedule is already full. You should register for accreditation through the "Press" area of the Festival's website at www.miamifilmfestival.com to be able to attend the press conference and Red Carpet for your news coverage needs.

For advance interviews with director Aaron Salgado and/or producer J.D. Freixas, you may contact MIFF publicists or Rita E. Freixas Public Relations/The Freixas Group (see contact information below).

To RSVP for the press conference and Red Carpet, please notify MIFF or Miami Dade College media contacts. Only MIFF or MDC can authorize admission to attend these publicity events.

Additional MIFF media contact: Danny Diaz, 305-389-8986, danny@miamifilmfestival.com.

Additional MDC media contacts: Tere Estorino, director of media relations, 305-237-3949, testorin@mdc.edu; Sue Arrowsmith, 305-237-3710, sue.arrowsmith@mdc.edu; Tarnell Carroll, 305-237-3359, tarnell.carroll@mdc.edu; or, Alejandro Rios, 305-237-7482, arios1@mdc.edu.

Additional film publicity contacts: Rita Freixas, Rita E. Freixas PR, 305-205-7521, rita@refpr.com; or Guillermo "Koki" Freixas, The Freixas Group, 305-767-6800, koki@tfg-usa.com.

###