



**CRAZY8S ANNOUNCES SIX WINNERS IN VANCOUVER'S PREMIER  
SHORT FILM COMPETITION**  
**Gala screening of finished films April 9<sup>th</sup> at the Vogue Theatre**

**Vancouver (Feb. 28, 2011)** – Crazy8s today announced the six BC filmmakers who have won the chance to shoot, edit and debut their short films in just eight days of frenzied creativity as part of Vancouver's premier short film event. The directors are: Zachary Rothman with ALCHEMY; Rehan Khokhar with CHAINED; Shaun McKinlay with COLOURING THE WALLS; Stephen Martin with DEAD FRIENDS; Russell Bennett with FUNNY BUSINESS; and Sarah Crauder with RUN DRY.

Competition for the much-coveted opportunity to make a Crazy8s film was once again fierce this year - the 6 winners rose to the top from among 120 hopefuls who applied in December to submit a five-minute video pitch of their short film idea. After being selected with one of the 42 strongest video pitches, they pitched in-person to a jury of film professionals including Sue Biely (media consultant and former shorts programmer for CBC's ZeD), Dylan Akio-Smith (Crazy8s Alumni and winner of Best Short Film at the Toronto International Film Festival for "Man Feel Pain"), Kat Montagu (filmmaker, story editor and VFS instructor) and Craig Takeuchi (Georgia Straight Movie Editor.) They then survived the script work-shopping round, in which 13 finalists were given the opportunity to work with professional story editors, and made the final cut based on the strength and originality of their final script.

*"The scripts were really strong this year and the jury had a very challenging time narrowing it down", said Crazy8s Producer Erik Paulsson. "But in the end they could only select six winners, and these 6 filmmakers are definitely amongst the best new talent in British Columbia. I'm excited to see what they produce."*

*"Crazy8s provides one of the few sources of money and training for our best emerging filmmakers to make a professional short film", says Crazy8s Producer Marc Stephenson. "Many past Crazy8s filmmakers have gone on to make feature films, and you can bet that some of this year's winners will, too. If you want to see the best short films in the province, come out to the Gala Screening April 9."*

The 6 winning teams are now furiously underway with casting their films and securing locations, permits and crews – because their eight Crazy days of production start March 25 and run through April 1. The finished films will be unveiled at a **Gala Screening at the Vogue Theatre Saturday April 9**. Tickets for the Gala Screening and afterparty will be available through the Vogue Theatre ([www.vogue theatre.com](http://www.vogue theatre.com) or 604-569-1144.)

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For more information, contact:  
Diana Wilson  
604-258-4030  
[diana@crazy8s.cc](mailto:diana@crazy8s.cc)

For more on the announcement of the six winners and Crazy8s, please see the latest Crazy8s podcast at <http://www.crazy8s.cc/>, also available for download through iTunes.

## **Crazy8s 2011 Winning Teams & Projects**

### **Alchemy**

A man and a woman, so wrapped up in their crumbling marriage, have failed to notice that outside the world has already ended.

**Writer/Director: Zachary Rothman**

**Producer: Heather Lindsay**

### **Chained**

12 year old Peter's teacher becomes concerned about his monthly absences. When he makes a home visit to investigate, he discovers the terrible secret Peter and his father have been hiding.

**Writer/Director: Rehan Khokhar**

**Producer: Cole Hewlett**

### **Colouring the Walls**

Two adult children gain a fresh perspective on their childhood when forced to care for their aging mother in the early stages of Alzheimer's.

**Writers: Julie Stangeland & Shaun McKinlay**

**Director: Shaun McKinlay**

**Producers: Athan Merrick & Julie Stangeland**

### **Dead Friends**

9-year old Lola's only friend is her stuffed rabbit, until the human ear she finds and plants in the earth grows into her new best friend.

**Writer/Director: Stephen Martin**

**Producer: Katelyn D. Mann**

### **Funny Business**

Worried about his problem with premature ejaculation, a man discovers he can bring his lover to orgasm by making her laugh. All is well, until he starts running short on jokes...

**Writer: Andrew Templeton**

**Director: Russell Bennett**

**Producers: Gillian Bennett, S. Siobhan McCarthy & Kate Green**

### **Run Dry**

In a future Vancouver running out of water, a young working-class woman has to decide what price is too high for black-market papers that would let her escape the dying city with her privileged boyfriend.

**Writer: Jordan Hall**

**Director: Sarah Crauder**