

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – September 24, 2008 – Portland, OR

BendFilm to host world premiere of the Pander Bros.’ debut feature, “Selfless”



Meet the award-winning graphic novelists at:

World premiere: Thursday, 10/9, 7 pm, Old Mill Regal Cinemas

2nd screening: Saturday, 10/11, 4 pm, Tower Theater

SELFLESS after party: Sat., 10/11, 10 pm - closing, Summit Saloon & Stage

The BendFilm Festival will host the world premiere of the Pander Bros.’ new feature film, “Selfless,” on Thursday, October 9, at 7 pm at the Old Mill Regal Cinemas in Bend. A second screening is scheduled for Saturday, 10/11, at 4 pm at the Tower Theater. For ticket information, please go to www.bendfilm.org.

The filmmakers will be present at both showings, as well as at a SELFLESS after party on Saturday, 10/11, at The Summit Saloon and Stage in downtown Bend. Open to the public, the event will begin at 10 pm

and feature live entertainment by popular Portland DJs, Auditory Sculpture (who composed the “Selfless” soundtrack) and DJ Pan Am.

[Watch the Trailer](#)

“Selfless” marks the feature film debut for Jacob and Arnold Pander, the award-winning comic book illustrators and creators of such cult classics, ***GRENDEL: Devil’s Legacy*** and ***XXX (Triple X)***. Dubbed “a power duo of creativity” by *SOMA* magazine, their long collaboration has included music videos for Palm Pictures, the concept for Gus Van Sant’s “Runaway” video for Deee-Lite, three graphics novels, ten comic series for Marvel, Dark Horse and DC Comics (including the blockbuster titles ***Batman: City of Light*** and ***Batman: Apocalypse Girl***) and, most recently, ***Accelerate*** for Image Comics.

Directed by Jacob and produced by Arnold from their own original screenplay, “Selfless” is an intense suspense drama about a brash young architect who unwittingly plants the seeds of his own destruction when he draws an unflattering portrait of a fellow passenger in an airport waiting area. What he doesn’t know is that the offended stranger sitting next to him is a master at stealing identities, and he’s just made Dylan Gray his next target.

While identity theft is central to the story, the film is also about “self-identity,” explains Jacob. “What if you were Dylan, and you’ve invested everything of yourself into building a phenomenal career and you’re now being treated like a god? If your identity was stolen, and it destroyed your life and career, what would happen if your sense of ‘self’ was so wrapped up in your outward identity? Would you cease to exist?” Indeed, like many self-obsessed young professionals today, Dylan’s ego is fused to his personal successes, Arnold adds. “We see him as an archetype of the current times. He’s steeped in art and the creative world, but he’s ultimately a selfish go-getter.”

[Watch the Panders talk @ “Selfless”](#)

“Selfless” stars Joshua Rengert, Mo Gallini, Jen Hong and October Moore. Based in Los Angeles, Gallini’s portfolio of unforgettably menacing villains includes supporting roles in John Singleton’s “2 Fast 2 Furious,” “End of Days” starring Arnold Schwarzenegger, and David Lynch’s “Mulholland Drive.” Rengert has appeared in national commercials for Nintendo, Vonage, and Regent’s Blue Cross, as well as local spots for the Oregon Lottery. Moore, a leading voice-over actor currently being featured in national spots for Comcast, is a graduate of the New Actors Workshop in New York, where she studied under renowned director Mike Nichols. Hong, who makes her feature film debut, is a professional dancer who has performed with numerous Northwest companies.

The film was shot largely in Portland's trendy Pearl District by cinematographer Kevin Fletcher, a regional Emmy Award-winner who received his masters degree in fine arts from the School of Visual Arts in New York and has worked with Gus Van Sant, Miranda July and such corporate clients as National Geographic, Nike, and AOL. Music composer Keith Schreiner's distinctively dark melodic soundscapes – featuring vocals by Storm Large, plus featured music from Northwest pop bands Dandy Warhols and Pink Martini – comprise the foundation of the chilling score for “Selfless.”

For more information about “Selfless,” go to www.selflessthemovie.com, where a trailer and video interview with the Pander Bros. is posted.

About the Pander Bros.

The sons of prominent Northwest painter Henk Pander, the brothers were encouraged to explore their creativity from the time they could hold a crayon. As kids, they were back-stage regulars at Portland's landmark Storefront Theater, where their father designed installations and stage sets. By their preteens, Arnold was consumed with drawing comics and Jacob, though equally gifted with a pen and brush, was already plotting out his first movie, inspired by such late night TV serials as “Flash Gordon.”

Their first 8mm film, “War is Hell,” was directed by Jacob at age 12, and starred Arnold, 10, as an ambushed soldier. (To his teacher's horror, Jacob poked holes through the film stock to create the illusion of gun fire flashes.) Their first 16mm film, “Time Gate,” two years later, found Arnold stranded in an apocalyptic future. Their first pen-and-paper collaboration, around the same time, was the comic strip, *Gamma World*, which ran in their high school newspaper. Their first after-school jobs were in the Future Dreams comic book store (Arnold) and at a local art house theater (Jacob).

Indeed, it was as a result of Arnold leaving one his drawings behind at Future Dreams, when he quit the job, that their first big break came only a year out of high school. Popular comic book author Matt Wagner spotted it and had independent comics company, Comico, sign them to create the covers, logo and interior illustrations for his ***GRENDEL: Devil's Legacy*** series. Overnight, they went from “selling Christmas cards out of our shoulder bags” to being able to afford a trip to the family homeland when it was over. The 12-issue series set a new sales record for an independent comic book (on a par with Marvel and DC Comics), merited nominations for the coveted Eisner and Manning Awards, and scored the industry's top fans-choice award for the duo.

Among other notable projects, the Pander Bros. created the “**Secret Broadcast**” comic book/companion audio CD tribute to pirate radio (which included electronica producers from throughout the U.S.); the first comic book designed to be read in any order: the Dark Horse mini-series, ***Exquisite***

Corpse; and their own epic Amsterdam thriller **XXX**, also for Dark Horse (which Mondo 2000 hailed as “a comix masterpiece”).

After studying 16mm filmmaking at the Northwest Film & Video Center and serving as an apprentice editor on the 35mm feature, “Shadow Play,” Jacob launched his career as a director with a series of shorts infused with rebellious humor. Among them, “**The Spirit of 76**” featured painter and sculptor Tom Cramer, whose volatile and unpredictable interview style keeps the viewer on constant edge as the artist probes the meaning and American zeitgeist of the early 1990s; “**Media Hijack**” was a 20-minute visual narrative blending of repurchased media images and sound; and “**The Other Side of the Tracks**” chronicled a day in the life of three heroin addicts.

In 1992, Jacob was hired by Frontier Records to shoot his first music video, “**Light in You**,” for Dharma Bums, which received extensive play on MTV. Among the others, the brothers conceived, directed and produced Hitting Birth’s “**Drive On**,” the winner of the Oregon Cascade Award, and several electronica videos featured on MTV’s Amp. They were soon hired by Palm Pictures, to create a series of music videos which featured such international electronic artists as Howie B., Fantastic Plastic Machine, Spacer, and DJ Miku. The brothers used a narrative through-line to tell an audio-visual story. *Wired* magazine called their talent for raw storytelling “a knack for cinematic suspense.”

Their 1995 cult classic, “**The Operation**,” took first place at the New York Underground Film Festival, 2nd place at the Chicago Underground Film Festival, and honors at festivals in Berlin and Copenhagen. *Film Threat* noted that “The Operation” was “the most unusual, inspiring and crowd-pleasing piece” in the NY Underground Film Festival. *Wired* described it as “the kind of video that can rewire your neural net,” and Northwest Film & Video Festival judge Dan Ireland told *Willamette Week*: “It’s like a 16mm version of going over Jupiter in ‘2001: A Space Odyssey’!

For more of the Pander Brothers’ wide range of media projects visit: www.panderbros.com

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PHOTO CREDIT: Marne Lucas

MEDIA CONTACT:

Lyla Foggia

Foggia Public Relations LLC

(503) 622-0232

lyla@foggiapr.com