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***Osso Bucco* Featuring Starr and Douglas Makes West Coast Premiere at Newport Beach Film Festival**

(Chicago, Illinois, April 16, 2008) River West Films, LLC is pleased to announce its debut feature film “Osso Bucco,” starring Mike Starr and Illeana Douglas, will make its west coast premiere at the 2008 Newport Beach Film Festival. This “Dark Romantic Mobster Comedy” will screen Wednesday, April 30 at 8:30 PM at Edwards Island 5 (Fashion Island, Newport Beach, CA) and will be followed by a panel discussion featuring the film’s writer and co-director Gary Taylor. For festival and ticket information please visit: <http://www.newportbeachfilmfest.com>.

“Osso Bucco” is based on a script by Gary Taylor. The entire story happens on the fictitious night of the worst snowstorm in the history of Chicago and revolves around the story of Jelly Dinotto, a large and lovable misfit mobster. Jelly, along with his cousin Nick, are set to leave the country that night, but before doing so, they make one last stop at Jelly’s favorite restaurant, Puzzo al Mare. As the snow continues to come down, the two men soon become trapped inside the restaurant along with two underachieving, anal-retentive Chicago detectives and the few, remaining restaurant employees. “Osso Bucco” blends a classic love story with the action and excitement of a mafia-action drama.

Produced by Gary Taylor, Fred Blurton and Douglas Weidner, the project was shot in seventeen days at three locations in Chicago. It was co-directed by Fred Blurton and Gary Taylor, with David Kessler serving as the Director of Photography. Taylor said he was “excited to see the story and characters come to life with the wonderful performances from the film’s stars Mike Starr and Illeana Douglas, in addition to the great work from the rest of the cast,” most of whom hail from Chicago.

The filmmakers were able to shoot in a short time period and on an extremely small budget by “reverse engineering” the production process. Rather than the usual method of creating a budget to fit an existing script, the filmmakers designed the script to meet the parameters of a predetermined budget. This allowed the production team to take full advantage of locations and set ups without the traditional challenges of exceeding time and financial limitations. The company is pleased with the result and as Blurton notes, “We are thrilled that we made the decision to shoot the film entirely in High Definition. We’re amazed at how beautiful the HD footage looks. The visual quality of the film has exceeded even our expectations.”

About River West Films, LLC

River West Films, LLC is a privately-owned Illinois production company with the principal intent of creating theatrical motion pictures. The company’s mission is to produce quality films that have broad commercial appeal by utilizing advanced production techniques to create a visually compelling product at the lowest possible cost. “Osso Bucco” is River West Films, LLC’s first full-length feature film. For more information on “Osso Bucco” and River West Films visit www.ossobuccomovie.com and www.riverwestfilms.com