



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SEATTLE THEATRICAL PREMIERE OF AWARD-WINNING
DOCUMENTARY JUNE 14th at the CINERAMA**

**SIFF Alum “Inlaws &Outlaws” Bridges the Gay/Straight Divide with
Candor, Good Humor, Great Music and Real Heart**

(SEATTLE) After a sold-out premiere in 2005’s SIFF, and a highly successful run of the film festival circuit since then, Seattle filmmaker **Drew Emery’s** award-winning documentary, **Inlaws & Outlaws** gets it’s local theatrical release this week with a gala premiere at the **Cinerama** on **Thursday, June 14th at 8 pm.** Next, the film has an exclusive two-week run at the **AMC Uptown Theatre** in Queen Anne, **June 15th through 28th.** Advance tickets for the premiere are \$10 (\$12 at the door) and are available now online, by phone or in person through Ticket Window (206) 325.6500 or www.ticketwindowonline.com.

Attending the premiere will be the director and lead subjects of the film with a special presentation from **Col. Grethe Cammermeyer** (Ret.) to follow. A **Champagne After-Party** at **Brasa** (2107 – 3rd Avenue) will benefit the film’s fiscal sponsor, Three Dollar Bill Cinema. Advance tickets for the film and After-Party are \$40 and also available through Ticket Window.

Inlaws & Outlaws owes much of its success to the unique way it addresses a thorny issue; gay marriage. Rather than focus on the politically divisive rhetoric or the current debate, the film relies on **true stories** told by Seattle area couples and singles. At the top of the film, you don’t know who’s gay or straight and who’s coupled with whom. By the end, you won’t care and you’ll be rooting for them all. This refreshing approach has captured the hearts of

audiences in churches in Oklahoma to packed theatres in Cleveland and Seattle. With candor, good humor, great music and real heart, **Inlaws & Outlaws** has found a following by getting to the heart of the matter; gay or straight, it's about love.

Since the SIFF premiere in 2005, the film has taken a highly unusual route to its release. After winning the deadCENTER Film Festival's **Grand Jury Award** and being chosen Best of Fest from the Palm Springs Film Festival, among other honors, the film found a following in **Oklahoma**. There, a small but dedicated "posse" of committed volunteers arranged for several showings in local churches that eventually culminated in a limited run at a local mainstream Cineplex. In the process, Emery had a fateful meeting with a man who would eventually become the film's executive producer, **Bob Lemon**. Based in Oklahoma City, Lemon, 79 is a long-time oil rights lawyer who self-identifies as "straight but not narrow." After seeing the movie at his church, he fell in love with the stories and began to lend his financial support to the Oklahoma Posse's efforts. By January, Bob Lemon had pledged a major gift that has allowed Emery's team to scale up their efforts and release the film more broadly. The film is now dedicated to Lemon's late wife, **Mary Lou Lemon**, a champion of gay and lesbian rights in Oklahoma and Texas.

"That, in a nutshell, is the story of this film," says director and producer Drew Emery. "The media would have us believe that gay and straight folk are irreconcilably at odds on so-called "lifestyle" issues. But Bob Lemon joining our effort is testament to the huge number of people across the country who recognize that love is universal and should be celebrated — regardless of the gender of those involved. That's why this film has played so well in churches in Oklahoma, schools in Ohio and next, we think, right here in Seattle." Lemon puts it more simply: "Love is neither gay nor straight. It's human — and we need more of it."

The Seattle Cinerama premiere and run at the Uptown Theatre kick off a flurry of activity for the True Stories Project, Emery's production company. Just in time for Seattle's Pride season, three subjects of the film — **Pete-e Petersen**, **Jane Lighty** and **Chuck Lazenby** — have

been designated “Celebrity Grand Marshals” of Seattle’s official **Pride Parade**, Sunday June 24th. Meanwhile, the theatrical run in Seattle will be followed by community screenings throughout the state, partnering with state-wide organizations like the **Religious Coalition for Equality** and **PFLAG**, among others. Already, screenings are set in the next four weeks for Bellingham, Port Townsend, Spokane, Tri-Cities and Vancouver, Washington. Later this summer, a tour of churches kicks off in Indiana, the reddest of red states.

As for this week’s premiere, director Emery couldn’t be more excited. "After two years of raising the film’s profile and building our campaign, it’s pretty awesome to come full circle to the Cinerama and honor not only the wonderful people in the film, but the tremendous number of individuals, businesses and organizations whose support made it all possible. I don’t have *Spider Man 3*’s marketing budget but I have the undeniable power of the true story. If the last two years of taking this film all over has taught me anything, it’s that people are hungry for the truth and they’re desperate for some hope."

Supporting the Cinerama premiere are organizational sponsors the **ACLU**, the **GSBA**, **Equal Rights Washington**, **Seattle Out and Proud**, **Three Dollar Bill Cinema**, **Gay City**, and the **Human Rights Campaign**. Business sponsors include **Premiere Gold Sponsor Michael Cornell Real Estate** as well as Herban Feast, Harley Broe, CPA, Jonathan Bowman PS and Mona Smith, PLLC, Radarworks, Dan Drummey Realtor, and Wright Law, PLLC. Media sponsors are **AM 1090**, **Seattle Weekly** and **KUOW**.

A **True Stories Project** production, **Inlaws & Outlaws** was originally developed with the grant from the **Seattle Mayor’s Office of Arts & Cultural Affairs**. Completion funds were provided, in part, by the **Pacific Pioneers Documentary Fund**. The Hearts + Minds Campaign is funded, in part, by the **Pride Foundation**.

For more information see the attached Fact Sheet, or visit: www.inlawsandoutlawsfilm.com.

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Inlaws & OUTLAWS

- WHAT:** “Inlaws & Outlaws” Seattle Theatrical Premiere
- WHERE:** Cinerama, 2100 – 4th Avenue (June 14th Premiere)
AMC Uptown Theatre — 511 Queen Anne Ave N (June 15th—28th)
- WHEN:** June 14th at 8 pm, Q&A and press interviews to follow
June 15th through 28th, exclusive two-week run plays the Uptown Theatre
- HOW:** Advance tickets to the premiere are \$10 and are available now at Ticket Window, (206) 325.6500 or www.ticketwindowonline.com.
Premiere with After-Party tickets are \$40.
(Tickets at the door are \$12 and \$50 respectively.)
- WHO:** A True Stories Project production, filmed in Seattle
Produced and Directed by Drew Emery, his debut feature

What the Critics Say:

“Captures the heart of love...” John Hartl, *The Seattle Times*

“Lovingly rendered... a timely examination of the nature of marriage, whether straight or gay.” Ken Eisner, *Variety*

“Excellent. Intelligently done... it’s impossible not be completely absorbed.”
Seattle Gay News

“An excellent documentary about people who personify everything that is right about the phrase "I do." *NewsOK*, Oklahoma City

“A timely, often affecting documentary [that] investigates with subtlety and insight... a heartfelt and surprisingly tender story...” *Cincinnati City Beat*

“An effective treatise on love... honest and heartfelt.” *Kitsap Sun*

Inlaws & Outlaws

Marriage from the inside. And out.

Photos and press kit available at: www.inlawsandoutlawsfilm.com