



Press Release

For Immediate Release

**A SIMPLE CURVE, BY DON HAIG AWARD WINNER,
OPENS ACROSS CANADA**

TORONTO, ONTARIO, January 30, 2006 – *A Simple Curve*, written and directed by Aubrey Nealon, the inaugural winner of the Don Haig Award, will open in theatres in Toronto, Vancouver, Winnipeg and Nelson, B.C. on February 3, 2006 – with other cities to follow. The opening follows hard on the heels of *Curve* being named one of Canada's Top Ten Films of 2005 by the Toronto International Film Festival Group.

Nealon's first feature tells the tale of twenty-seven-year-old Caleb's (Kris Lemche) quiet revolt against his idealistic father, Jim (Michael Hogan), whose small carpentry shop is struggling to stay in business. The 35mm theatrical feature was shot on location in the interior of B.C. in the fall of 2004.

A Simple Curve premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival in September 2005. It won the NFB Carolyn Fouriezos Award for Best First Feature at the Cinéfest Sudbury International Film Festival and opened the Canadian Images section of the Vancouver International Film Festival. On January 29th it will play at the Victoria Independent Film & Video Festival.

Aubrey Nealon won the \$10,000 Don Haig Award in May 2004. Aimed at emerging filmmakers, the memorial Award was established in 2002 by Don's life companion Bill Schultz, his family, colleagues, and the filmmakers he so vigorously supported. The Award is a unique opportunity for members of the Canadian film and television community to "give back" in his spirit. It is an annual no strings-attached cash prize for the filmmaker – to buy some creative time, to fill a financial gap in a production, to complete a film; whatever is needed.

Known affectionately as the "godfather of Canadian film", Don Haig quietly helped young filmmakers throughout his career. And he knew how to pick them: *I've Heard The Mermaids Singing* directed by Patricia Rozema and produced by Alex Raffe; Oscar winner, *Artie Shaw Time Is All You've Got* directed by Brigitte Berman; *The Twist* by Ron Mann. There are many more.

For more information about The Don Haig Fund and Award:

Please visit the website at www.donhaig.org

Or contact: Joan Schafer, 416-564-1277, jschafer@sympatico.ca