

# Press Release

## **UCSB Student's First Film Invited to SBIFF**

*Apparition*: A Film Festival favorite, written and directed by UCSB Student Daniel Gruen, set to make it's Santa Barbara Film Festival Premiere this January,

**Santa Barbara, CA, December 31, 2008:** The psychological thriller, *Apparition*, a short film written and directed by Santa Barbara's very own Daniel Gruen, will screen at the Santa Barbara Film Festival this January. *Apparition* is Gruen's first film and has received recognition at other film festivals. A senior year film studies major at UCSB, Gruen is very excited for the success his film has had.

The seven minute film, *Apparition*, is a story about three friends who are haunted by a deadly prophecy. When asked about how he got the idea of the film, Gruen said, "I'm a huge fan of the original *Twilight Zone* series and I wanted to do something that captured that kind of eeriness." The talented cast includes Santa Barbara locals Heather Dawn Rally, Gavin Garrison, and Bryce Bommer.

*Apparition* made its debut at the Action on Film (AOF) International Film Festival, where it was nominated for "Best Horror Short Film" and "Best Special Effects Short." The film also received a nomination for "Best Student Short" at the Indie Fest USA International Film Festival this past year. In response to the previous nominations, Gruen said, "Nominations and awards are nice but the real fun is watching *Apparition* on the big screen. There's nothing like it."

While continuing to balance school work with movie making in his last year at UCSB, Gruen is currently in production of his next short film, *Wilcox*, a comedy about an off-beat sex therapist.

Screening times for *Apparition* are: Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:30pm at Victoria Hall; and Monday January 26<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm at the Santa Barbara Museum of Art.

For more production information regarding *Apparition*, Daniel Gruen, or the upcoming *Wilcox*, please visit Gruen Film's website: [www.GruenFilms.com](http://www.GruenFilms.com)

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**For immediate release**