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Local Filmmaker to show at Cleveland International Film Festival

Chicago, Ill. (March 1, 2010) — Chicago-based filmmaker Peter-John Campbell, a native of Hartsville, OH, will return to Northeast Ohio to show his latest film, *The Story of Seema*, at the Cleveland International Film Festival, March 18-28.

“I’m thrilled to be invited back to Ohio to be a part of this prestigious film festival. It’s truly an honor to share this important film with audiences in my home state.” said Campbell.

Founded in 1977, the Cleveland International Film Festival is Ohio's premier film event. Campbell’s submission is joined by over 240 films originating from 60 countries worldwide.

Campbell’s film, *The Story of Seema* is an eye-opening look at the reality of sexual slavery in India through the eyes of one young girl. The film was inspired by the work of Ralph Borde, President of Charasia, a not for profit organization, that works to rescue children from the red-light district in western India.

“I asked [Borde] to tell me a true story of how a woman in India becomes trapped in sex slavery. This is the story he told me,” said Campbell. “We both hope this film will raise awareness and get people talking about this heinous and too-often overlooked issue.”

In India, there are approximately 10 million women and children trapped in the sex trade. Of these 10 million, an estimated 500,000 are children. They are either sold into slavery by boyfriends, husbands or family members looking for money, devoted to Yelluma (an India goddess) in a practice known as “devadasi,” or kidnapped through various means of deception, such as the promise of a better life.

The Story of Seema show times are March 23 at 4:30 pm in **Independent Shorts Program #7** and March 27 at 9:25 am in the **Animated Shorts Program**. Tickets can be purchased for the festival by going to www.clevelandfilm.org.

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About Claymore Pictures

Founded in 2005 in Chicago, Illinois, Claymore Pictures, Inc. aims to capture both the easy spirit of the Midwest American life and the bleak realities of a troubled world through film. In 2007, founding President Peter-John Campbell earned a Silver Remi Award for Music from the Houston International Film Festival for his first short film, *An American Revolution*. Campbell specializes in writing and directing and has an extensive background in audio engineering. Find more information at www.claymorepictures.com. Images for media use can be downloaded at <http://www.claymorepictures.com/news.php>.