

Jon Amiel's latest feature film *Creation* supporting Direct Access Talent

LONDON 3rd December 2008 British Director JON AMIEL (*The Core, Entrapment*) is supporting DIRECTORS GUILD TRUST Direct Access Candidate SARAH GROHNERT, by providing her the opportunity to observe him at work on his latest feature, *CREATION*. A biopic on the life of Charles Darwin, *Creation* stars Paul Bettany and Jennifer Connelly as Charles and Emma Darwin.

CREATION, a Recorded Picture Company production, is currently shooting in the UK and will be accommodating Sarah Grohnert on set and during rehearsals and production meetings two to three days per week right through to post production. This offers her the chance to learn more about a Director's role, their responsibilities and methods of practice on a large feature film production through observation and discussion with a professional Director.

Sarah Grohnert's work to date includes the *Discworld Tourist Guides* for Sky based on their adaptation of Terry Pratchett's *The Colour of Magic* and a host of commercials for The Mobfilm Co. where she was the company's first ever female signing for commercials. Sarah is also an award winning short film director, and her films have screened at a vast selection of international film festivals.

DIRECT ACCESS; run in association with Skillset as part of *A Bigger Future* the UK Film Skills Strategy and Film 4, is the only scheme of its kind in the UK. Similar to the established US industry standard DGA Trainee placements, the Directors Guild Trust aims to bridge the wide gap of knowledge and skills between working Directors and new Talent. By choosing those who have shown promise as Directors of short films, commercials or television series' in the UK, the DGT hopes to make the notoriously difficult transition from emerging to established filmmaker all the more possible and in so doing, increase the numbers of flourishing UK Directors.

The Directors Guild Trust exists as a charity arm of the membership organisation, the Directors Guild of Great Britain fundamentally looking to create opportunities for future British Directors through such Schemes as well as supporting the development of skills through other events and training programmes.

This is the second placement for the Direct Access Scheme and follows Candidate Miranda Bowen's previous placement on Joe Johnston's *The Wolfman* shot in the UK earlier this year.

Supporters of the Scheme include: Sir Richard Eyre, David Yates, Mike Hodges, John Madden, Bharat Nalluri and Phillip Noyce.

The remaining Direct Access candidates awaiting placements are CELIA GALAN, SEAN CONWAY and YANN DEMANGE.

The Directors Guild Trust aims to expand the Scheme into television and theatre.



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