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RECOVERED Premieres at ReelHeART International Film Festival

The controversial documentary that has received worldwide attention is now an Official Selection in the Reel HeART's SHORT OR LONG FORM DOCUMENTARY category.

Toronto, Canada – June 24, 2009 *Recovered: Journeys Through the Autism Spectrum and Back*, an award-winning documentary about four children who completely recovered from autism, makes its Canadian premiere as part of the **ReelHeART International Film Festival (RHIF)**, **June 22-27, 2009**.

RECOVERED is a film by one of the nation's leading autism researchers and psychologists, Dr. Doreen Granpeesheh, and acclaimed videographer Michele Jaquis. The documentary reveals the story of four children diagnosed with autism at an early age, who achieved success using treatments rooted in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy.

The documentary takes viewers inside of therapy sessions along with interviews of Brett, Ruffin, Nick, and Janna who are now teenagers, their parents, therapists, and Dr. Granpeesheh. The combined stories of Nick, Janna, Brett, and Ruffin illuminate both their struggles and triumphs while providing hope to families of newly diagnosed children that recovery is indeed possible.

"Many people don't believe it is possible to recover from Autism. Our intention in providing proof of Recovery and in identifying a course of action toward that goal is only to bring hope and determination to those families who feel it is in the best interest of their child to learn new skills in order to better access the rewards of life," says Dr. Granpeesheh.

Autism is a complex neurobiological disorder that typically lasts throughout a person's lifetime. It is part of a group of disorders known as autism spectrum disorders (ASD). 1 in 150 children is diagnosed with autism, making it more common than pediatric cancer, diabetes, and AIDS combined.

"As an artist I am interested in producing work that engages its audience on an emotional level and sometimes that means delving into difficult subject matter. It is challenging to go back and relive a part of one's life that was difficult, and Doreen and I asked these families to do that," says Michele Jaquis.

Recovered: Journeys Through the Autism Spectrum and Back will play **4:00pm on Wednesday, June 24th, 2009** (Day 3 of the festival) in **Main Programming B**.

Tickets are \$10. Advance Tickets go on sale online April 20th at www.reelheart.com.

Screeners are available for reviews FOR PRESS upon request

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For more information about RECOVERED, visit: www.recoveredautism.com

To see the RECOVERED trailer, visit www.recoveredautism.com

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