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FUSION OF SCIENCE AND ART, THE SCORE has World Premiere at Vancouver Film Festival

Vancouver, BC (September 28, 2005) – **THE SCORE**, a groundbreaking musical drama about a scientist whose own genetic history threatens her career, her lab and her life has its world premiere on **Saturday October 1** as part of the Vancouver International Film Festival. Produced by Vancouver's Screen Siren Pictures, **THE SCORE** is based on the award winning play by Vancouver's Electric Company Theatre and stars Jane Perry, Jonathon Young, JR Bourne, Kevin McNulty, Lois Anderson, Diana Coatsworth, Allesandro Juliani, Tom Butler and Suleka Matthew. **THE SCORE** is the directorial debut for Director/Co-writer Kim Collier. Kevin Kerr, Jonathon Young, David Hudgins also collaborated as co-directors/co-writers.

THE SCORE is the product of a unique collaboration between the worlds of science and the arts. The play was originally commissioned in 2000 by Dr. Michael Hayden, Director and senior scientist of Vancouver's Centre for Molecular Medicine and Therapeutics, who also provided with his colleagues at CMMT, research advice and consultation on the film.

"The arts are not a frill but crucial in helping genomics research", says Dr. Hayden. "By giving us a new way of looking at things, the arts lift our spirits and foster our imagination. The arts help us better understand how science is affecting our daily lives. With music and dance, **The Score** transforms the scientific ideas explored in the world of the laboratory into universal themes of human identity, freedom and creativity and opens up a door for a discussion between the scientific community and the public in general".

THE SCORE tells the story of Dr. Lynn Magnusson as a brilliant geneticist racing to isolate a cancer-causing gene. All that's standing in her way is competition from a well funded French lab, a ticking biological clock that leads to a risky office romance, and her own fears that she might carry the same Huntington's gene that killed her mother. **THE SCORE** portrays themes of genetic determinism in a world of rapidly advancing science. It also examines the necessity for an active dialogue between the public and scientists in determining what ethical guidelines will dictate the ongoing exploration of this brave new world.

The Score is also one of **The Georgia Straight's Top 10 Film Fest Picks**, published in the September 22, 2005 issue. **THE SCORE Vancouver Film Festival screenings are:**

- **Saturday, October 1, 7pm** at the Granville 7 Cinemas (855 Granville Street)
- **Wednesday, October 12, 1:40pm** at the Granville 7 Cinemas (855 Granville Street)

THE SCORE was produced for CBC's Opening Night, the preeminent performing arts slot on TV and because of the strong interest and financial support from Genome Canada, the national funding and information resource relating to genomics and proteomics research in Canada. **THE SCORE** is scheduled to air nationally on CBC television January 2006.

Produced in association with Electric Company Theatre www.electriccompanytheatre.com and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation www.cbc.ca. Produced with the participation the Canadian Television Fund created by the Government of Canada and the Canadian cable industry CTF: Licence Fee Program, Telefilm Canada: Equity Investment Program. Produced with the participation and contribution of Genome Canada; With the assistance of The Government of Canada Film or Video Production Tax Credit Program, CanWest Western Independent Producers Fund, the Province of British Columbia Film Incentive BC. Developed with the participation of British Columbia Film and with the financial participation of Rogers Telefund.

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Screeener copy of **THE SCORE**, press kit, high res photos & interviews with cast, directors, producers, writers, and Dr. Michael Hayden are available for media only.

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