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Slackery News Tidbits, May 1

By [Jordan Gass-Poore](#) on May 1, 2012 - 10:00am in [Slackery News Tidbits](#)

Here's the latest in Austin and Texas film news.

- Austin-based director [Richard Linklater's](#) latest film *Bernie* opened on Friday in limited runs in New York, L.A. and Austin (at Violet Crown). The *Austin Chronicle* reported the result: the best opening weekend ever for a Linklater feature. Needless to say, *Bernie* killed at the box office with more than \$30,000 estimated per screen (\$90,400 total).
- [IndieWIRE](#) reported that Dallas filmmaker [David Lowery](#) is set to write and direct the Rooney Mara (*Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*), Ben Foster, Casey Affleck flick *Ain't Them Bodies Saints*. Lowery's short film *Pioneer* ([Jette's article](#)) won the Grand Jury Award at SXSW 2011 and his feature debut, *St. Nick* ([Jette's article](#)), was a 2007 Texas Filmmakers Production Fund recipient. *Ain't Them Bodies Saints*, a project of the 2011 Creative Producing Labs and Creative Producing Summit at Sundance, tells the story of a 1970s outlaw who escapes from prison and sets out across the Texas countryside to reunite with his wife and daughter.
- The brand-new Oak Cliff Film Festival has announced some of the films and events that will take place from June 14-17 this year: a 35mm screening of the 1994 Central Texas-shot *Love and a .45* with cast and crew attending; *Fantastic Mr. Fox* screening outdoors at the Dallas Zoo; a double-feature of the short *The Black Balloon* and the feature *The Red Balloon*; a filmmaking workshop with sometimes-Austinite [Bradley Beesley](#) (*Okie Noodling*, *Sweethearts of the Prison Rodeo*); and more that we don't have room to include -- visit [the fest's website](#) for details. Badges go on sale today -- and if you buy a badge today, you can use a [Groupon deal](#) for a discount of more than 50 percent.
- [Deadline Hollywood](#) reported the ABC Family Channel Original Series *The Lying Game* has been renewed for a second season. The second season will begin production this summer at [Austin Studios](#) for a winter premiere. The drama follows separated-at-birth teenaged identical twins Emma Becker and Sutton Mercer ([Alexandra Chando](#)), who, after swapping lives, try to unravel the mysteries of their past.



- New York's 16th Annual [Rooftop Films Summer Series](#) is including a significant number of Austin, Texas, and SXSW films in its lineup: Austin filmmakers [David](#) and [Nathan Zellner's](#) feature *Kid-Thing* ([Don's SXSW review](#)); native Texan [Amy Seimetz's](#) dramatic thriller *Sun Don't Shine* ([Don's SXSW review](#)); Dallas native [Terence Nance's](#) debut feature *An Oversimplification of Her Beauty*, about the relationship between Nance and a mystery woman; Jonathan Lisecki's comedy *Gayby* ([Elizabeth's SXSW review](#)), for which Austinite [Clay Liford](#) was cinematographer; coming-of-age story *Only The Young*, co-directed by Austin native [Elizabeth Mims](#); and the documentary *The Imposter*, about a San Antonio family whose son goes missing.
- Speaking of *Gayby*, [The Wrap](#) reported that Wolfe Releasing acquired the comedy's U.S. rights at SXSW 2012. The film is scheduled to be released in

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theaters in 2012, with a DVD and video on demand release in 2013.



- Austin Movie Blog [reports](#) that the latest movie from Todd Phillips (*The Hangover*) will be an adaptation of the novel *Mule: A Novel of Moving Weight*, about a couple who are so down on their luck they take work as drug mules. What does this have to do with Austin? The adaptation will be written by former Austinites [Jay](#) and [Mark Duplass](#).
- The 10th season of Austin-shot series *Red vs. Blue* [will premiere](#) on May 28. This season, actor [Elijah Wood](#) joins the cast as a new character. Check out the teaser trailer below, courtesy of *Wired*.