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Slackery News Tidbits: September 23, 2013

By [Jordan Gass-Poore](#) on September 23, 2013 - 9:30am in [Slackery News Tidbits](#)

Here's the latest Austin and Texas film news.

- [Polari](#) (formerly aGLIFF) has just announced its 26th annual festival [lineup](#), which includes Austinite Yen Tan's drama *Pit Stop* ([Debbie's Sundance review](#)), PJ Raval's documentary *Before You Know It* ([Don's SXSW review](#)) and Clay Liford's short *Slash*, which just played Fantastic Fest last night ([Debbie's interview](#)). The oldest film festival in Austin takes place Oct. 16-20.
- Acquisition news from Fantastic Fest: IFC Midnight acquired the North American rights to the sci-fi-horror flick *Almost Human*, according to [IndieWire](#). The film, about a man's search for the killer behind a series of grisly murders, will screen again tomorrow at Alamo Lakeline.
- The Elijah Wood-fronted *Grand Piano*, which had its world premiere Friday at Fantastic Fest, has been picked up for U.S. distribution by Magnet for a planned 2014 release, the filmmakers announced. Eugenio Mira's thriller will screen again on Tuesday at Alamo Lakeline. Keep an eye out for Jette's review.
- Austinite [David Gordon Green's](#) (*Prince Avalanche*) latest film, *Manglehorn*, will begin filming in Austin this fall, reports [Deadline](#). The drama, starring Al Pacino and Holly Hunter, follows an eccentric man trying to come to terms with a past crime that lost him the love of his life.
- Austin filmmaker [David Hartstein](#) ([Jette's interview](#)) was accepted to Biennale College, a Venice-based cinema lab program that workshops dozens of projects and picks three to fund and premiere at the Venice Film Festival, according to [The Austin Chronicle](#). Hartstein's *Along Came Kinky* ([Don's review](#)) was recently released on VOD. Fellow Austinites [Jason Cortlund](#) and [Julia Halperin](#) of *Now, Forager* ([Jordan's interview](#)) fame were also accepted to Biennale College.
- Austin-based filmmaker [Richard Linklater](#) will be presented with the Director Tribute award at this year's Gotham Independent Spirit Awards, the [L.A. Times](#) reports.
- Alamo Drafthouse recently announced the newest members of its programming team: Austinites (and UT alum) R.J. LaForce, Tommy Swenson, Kayla Williams and Laird Jimenez.
- [Austin Race Events](#) announced a premiere party for the Formula 1 biopic *Rush* on Friday night at Moviehouse & Eatery (8300 N. FM 620). Various racing-related activities will take place, along with as-yet-to-be-announced special guests in attendance. Proceeds from the event benefit [Your Ride is Here](#), a local nonprofit organization that provides free transportation for cancer patients to and from their treatments.
- Texas Accountants and Lawyers for the Arts, an organization that aims to help meet the legal and accounting needs of artists and arts-related nonprofits in the state, has moved its headquarters to Austin, according to the [Texas Film Commission](#).
- [Austin Film School](#) invites youth ages 14-18 to create an episode of the current student-produced telenovela, *Mundos Diferentes*. this after-school program will take place for an hour beginning at 4:50 pm on Mondays from Oct. 24-Nov. 28 at Ann Richards School. Sponsorships and grants are available for eligible students.
- [Film School Rejects](#) posted the first trailer for the Austin-shot movie *Zero Charisma* ([Jette's review](#)), which had its world premiere at this year's SXSW Film Festival. The comedy tells the story of Scott (Sam Eidson), an overbearing fantasy role-playing gamer. The movie opens in Austin on Oct. 11. Here's the trailer:

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