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Slackery News Tidbits, July 30

By [Jordan Gass-Poore](#) on July 30, 2012 - 10:30am in [Slackery News Tidbits](#)

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

- Tribeca Film recently acquired all North American rights to Austin-based director **Bob Byington's** offbeat indie comedy *Somebody Up There Likes Me* ([Don's review](#)), [Indiewire](#) reported. Byington's follow-up to his 2009 film *Harmony and Me* stars **Keith Poulson** and **Nick Offerman** as best friends who are aided through life by a magic suitcase ([Jette's interview with Byington and Offerman](#)). The movie, which premiered at SXSW 2012, is scheduled to have a Spring 2013 theatrical release and will be available for rent on various video-on-demand platforms and iTunes.
- Austin independent film has another reason to rejoice with the recent announcement of part-time Austinite **Treva Wurmfeld's** appearance as one of 25 new faces of independent film by [Filmmaker Magazine](#), [Austin Movie Blog](#) reported. Wurmfeld was chosen to be a part of the 15th annual list, which has included other local filmmakers such as Joe Nicolosi and Andrew Bujalski, for her debut feature *Shepard & Dark*. The documentary chronicles the friendship between writer and archivist **Johnny Dark** and Hollywood star **Sam Shepard**. Post-production on the film was completed at Richard Linklater's Detour Productions and is scheduled to make its world premiere this September at the [Toronto International Film Festival](#).
- The Toronto International Film Festival will also host a special screening of Austin-based director **Terrence Malick's** new film, *To The Wonder*, [Austin Movie Blog](#) recently reported. The Oklahoma-shot film, which stars Ben Affleck, Javier Bardem and Rachel McAdams, is about a man who reconnects with a woman from his hometown after his marriage with a European woman ends. The film is also scheduled to screen at next month's [Venice International Film Festival](#), where it will compete for the festival's top prize, the Golden Lion.
- Speaking of Terrence Malick, his stepson, actor **Will Wallace**, will direct the film *Red Wing* in the North Texas town of Whitewright, according to [Joe M. O'Connell's blog](#). Screenwriter **Kathleen Orillion**, who adapted George Sand's book *Le Petite Fadette* into the family saga *The Marfa Lights* for the now defunct Burnt Orange Productions, rejoins Malick for *Red Wing*. Orillion's collaboration may provide insight into the plot of the film, which is set to star Fort Worth native Bill Paxton; Frances Fisher, who attended high school in Orange, Texas; and Luke Perry.
- Calling all local filmmakers. The [Texas Film Commission](#) announced details of this year's Austin 48 Hour Film Project. The annual competition, which takes place Aug. 24-26, challenges filmmaker teams to write, cast, scout, shoot, edit and submit a film in two days. Submitted films will be screened for the public and judged by a panel of experts. The chosen film will be entered in Filmapalooza 2013, the project's annual awards ceremony in Los Angeles.
- Austin-based filmmaker **Bill Wittliff's** decades-long attempt to see his script for *A Night in Old Mexico* come to life has finally become a reality, according to [Joe M. O'Connell's blog](#). The film, about an older man who heads to Mexico with his grandson after the foreclosure of his ranch, is scheduled to shoot in Brownsville.
- The stars of the Danish comedy *Klown: The Movie* ([J.C.'s review](#)), which made its U.S. release last Friday, recently spoke with former Austinite Aaron Hillis of [Indiewire](#) while on a canoe trip down the Guadalupe River to the Alamo Drafthouse-sponsored open-air Rolling Roadshow screening. The Austin-based theater chain's [Drafthouse Films](#) acquired the movie's North American distribution rights earlier this year.

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