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Slackery News Tidbits: February 24, 2013

By [Jordan Gass-Poore](#) on February 24, 2014 - 11:30am in [Slackery News Tidbits](#)

Here's the latest Austin and Texas film news.

- The [Fifth Annual RxSM Self-Medicated Film Expo](#) will take place March 6-13 at various locations around Austin. The free festival will feature more than 130 movies at four venues that honor "edgy, boundary-expanding storytelling," like the East Texas-shot documentary [Little Hope Was Arson](#) ([Elizabeth's dispatch](#)), which played at last year's Austin Film Festival, and native Dallasites [Luke](#) and [Andrew Wilson's Satellite Beach](#), a short drama about the journey of two space shuttle transports. You can [RSVP](#) for the festival, which kicks off at the Spider House Chapel (2908 Fruth St.).
- Speaking of AFF, their annual [Oscar Prediction Contest](#) is now open and will close on Sunday, March 2 at 6 pm, the start of the award show's telecast. The top five entrants who most closely predict the winners of the 86th Annual Academy Award winners will each win a Lone Star Badge to this year's festival and conference.
- The Alamo Drafthouse's South Lamar location and popular bar, The Highball, both of which closed in January 2013 ([Rod's dispatch](#)), will open this summer in the newly redeveloped Lamar Union complex at the previous address, according to [Austin Movie Blog](#). The Highball, which will be adjacent to the movie theater, will feature karaoke rooms, a ballroom with dance floor and stage, a lounge area and an outdoor patio.
- In more Drafthouse news, Drafthouse Films, the distribution arm of the theater chain, has acquired the North American rights to this year's Sundance Film Festival documentary [20,000 Days on Earth](#), about a semi-fictional day in the life of musician Nick Cave. The film won awards for directing and editing in the World Cinema - Documentary category at Sundance.
- Fantastic Fest recently announced a new collaboration between its Latin American genre co-production company [Fantastic Market/Mercado Fantastico](#) and [Blood Window](#), a special section of the Latin American genre movie market, Ventana Sur, which annually takes place in Buenos Aires in December. As part of this new collaboration, Fantastic Market and Ventana Sur will each invite two pitching projects and two works-in-progress to participate in the other's event.
- The Austin-shot documentary [All of Me](#), which follows a group of female friends on their journey from being "fat acceptance" advocates to some deciding to undergo weight loss surgery, will air nationally on PBS's *Independent Lens* on March 24. The film screened at AFF in 2013 ([Matt's review](#)).
- Finally, production began earlier this month on Texas A&M alumnus [Luke Korem's](#) documentary [Dealt](#) that focuses on Richard Turner, a magician and card shark who is blind. Turner was featured on [CBS News](#). *Dealt* is expected to be released next year.

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