

time&again&nisgs

a STARS NORTH™ film

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LOCAL PRODUCTION COMPANY WELCOMES A PAIR OF STARS

Stars North films 'Time & Again' in Orlando

ORLANDO, FL (September 18, 2002) Local filmmakers, Todd Thompson and Balinda DeSantis of Stars North will begin filming their next project, *Time and Again*, a 35mm short film that will star Academy Award® nominated actor, Seymour Cassel, and film and television actress, Margaret Blye.

Written and directed by Thompson, *Time & Again* is the story of a watchmaker named Steve and his wife, Mae, a woman he has loved his entire life who now lies terminally ill in their bedroom upstairs. On the day of their anniversary, Steve surprises Mae with an old clock he has repaired that he soon learns allows him to control time. Unable to afford the treatment needed to get Mae well, Steve uses the clock to win the lottery only to discover that even though he can control time, destiny has a mind of its own.

Although fictitious, Thompson fashioned the story around his Grandfather who used to collect and repair antique clocks as a hobby, and named the characters after his Uncle Steve and Aunt Mae.

“My Uncle Steve used to own the old movie theater in Medina, Ohio. I saw all my movies there while I was growing up” he recalls. “He would sell the tickets and my Aunt Mae used to pop the popcorn and run the concession stand. They were coming up on their 67th anniversary year when she died back in November of 2000. I know he misses her and I hope this film will be a little tribute to the deep love they shared.”

Cassel, who recently appeared in films such as *The Royal Tenenbaums* and *Rushmore*, was fast to jump on board the project and play the role of Steve. The actor met DeSantis and Thompson several years ago through Cassel’s involvement with the Florida Film Festival.

Stars North□ was formed by DeSantis and Thompson in 1999 but the two notes that the film could never come to fruition without the generous support they have received in the form of donated equipment and services, as well as the help enlisted from the members of their production crew.

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“We couldn’t do it without people like Kathryn Ruscio Kelly, our co-producer, Director of Photography Stephen Campbell, production manager, Smithy Sipes and Gary Turchin and Kenny Taht of Convergence. They’re all great assets to the Florida film community who share our enthusiasm for independent filmmaking” Thompson says.

“And working with actors of Seymour and Margaret’s caliber is going to make this an exceptional experience” concludes DeSantis. “It’s great to be working on another film project!”

...About Stars North™

Stars North™ is an independent movie production company based in Orlando, Florida. The company produces commercially appealing, quality films with memorable characters, engaging plots and redeeming messages. Stars North™ is committed to developing and producing projects in Florida that employ local cast and crew for worldwide distribution. For more information, contact Stars North™ at (407) 292-6240, or visit the company’s Web site: www.starsnorth.com.