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**LOCAL PRODUCTION COMPANY HELPS
PAVE THE WAY TO NEWCOMERS SUCCESS**
*Short film makes it to the Big Apple and leads
to LA Directory fellowship for ABC Disney*

San Antonio (July 28, 2008) Local Director, Steven Acevedo, producers Macy McBeth and Fernando Cano, and executive producer L. Thomas Nador, owner of Laszlo Rain, must be beside themselves right now. Their debut short film **Shot** was recently showcased at HBO's New York International Latino Film Festival that took place July 22nd – 27th. This was the second film festival for the team as the film premiered during this year's SXSW Film Festival in March and was an audience favorite of the Texas Shorts Program.

HBO's New York International Latino Film Festival (NYILFF), which debuted in 1999, is now the premier Urban Latino film event in the country. Its mission is to showcase the works of the hottest emerging Latino filmmaking talent in the U.S. and Latin America, offer expansive images of the Latino experience, and celebrate the diversity and spirit of the Latino community. "We continue to be very excited about the film and proud of its successes. The festival screened to a large number of talented filmmakers and moviegoers. Screening in New York is a filmmaker's dream come true," stated Macy McBeth, producer-SHOT.

The short film is about a hired gun looking to score his first professional hit. But he has problems focusing in this darkly comedic tale of love, lies and long-range marksmanship. Since flunking out of sniper school, Jimmy (Armando Riesco; *National Treasure, Garden State, World Trade Center*) decides to follow in Uncle Bob's footsteps and enter the hit man business. After several botched efforts, he has yet to kill an actual target. Through the use of witty dialogue and a heartbreaking plot twist, **Shot** is an entertaining look at a man caught up in a roller coaster of dramatic emotions in a very short period time.

Shot was filmed entirely in downtown San Antonio in April of 2007, taking just two days to shoot in its primary location on top of the El Tropicano Hotel. The project was part of Laszlo Rain's director residency program. It was also an opportunity for Laszlo Rain to showcase projects under \$100K to prospective clients. As part of the residency program, Acevedo received \$75K in production support and post services. Laszlo Rain provided all the equipment, manpower, consulting, and technical support for the film. "These are the stories that make our

community a stronger place to work. There are very few aspiring young professionals who take an opportunity and turn it into a bigger opportunity. Steve not only proved his commitment to our industry, he also showed us that he could direct a quality picture with modest means. It makes us proud to know that we're helping talent find their dreams," stated Nador. "It also helps show the SA film community and beyond that good work can be produced locally and this helps raise the bar for everyone."

Steve, a San Antonio native began his residency at Laszlo Rain in 2006, studying multi-disciplinary skills under the leadership of Nador. He eventually worked his way through the camera department and continues to support Laszlo Rain Productions as a preferred vendor. Steve has branched out since working behind the camera on numerous music videos, commercials and short films, and he recently completed shooting his first feature film, *Cowboy Smoke*. Steve continues to shoot, and he has also directed commercials for Laszlo Rain, in addition to several other independent shorts. "The opportunity and the learning experience that Laszlo Rain provided me, it's been amazing. Their support has allowed me to focus on projects like **Shot**, and I'm really proud that this film is getting recognition," said Acevedo who was also recently selected to take part in one-year Television Directing Fellowship awarded by ABC-Disney, due in part to the success of the short film. Steve was one of three recipients out of approximately 500 applicants to be awarded, and it will allow him to shadow directors and producers for such shows as LOST, Desperate Housewives and Grey's Anatomy. "The purpose is to also develop professional relationships with the producers, writers and show runners, so I could be in a position to direct shows once the program is done next summer," added Acevedo.

Laszlo Rain is one of Texas' premier production facilities located in San Antonio, Texas. It's an award-winning full-service commercial production team with high standards, and a vigorous work ethic. For more information on services and residency/internship programs, visit looklikerrain.com or contact Rebecca F. Berzewski for a taste of production, Texas style. To learn more about **Shot**, visit steveacevado.com/shot.

UPDATE: **Shot**, was recently selected as the Grand Jury Prize at next months SAL Film Festival and will be screening at the Empire Theatre on October 10th. For more info: <http://salfilmfest.com/>