

	a: 105, 10169 · 104 ST Edmonton, AB · T5J 1A5
ID: PRODUCTIONS INC	p: 780 : 439 · 1621
	c: 780 : 288 · 0463
	e: info@idproductions.ca

MEDIA RELEASE

Broke. to be the opening night gala film at Global Visions 2009

Acclaimed pawnshop documentary first Edmonton-made film ever to open festival

Edmonton, October 21, 2009 - **Broke.**, Rosie Dransfeld's complex, powerful cinéma vérité style account of the day to day life in an Edmonton pawnshop, has been selected as the Opening Night Gala film at Canada's oldest documentary film festival, the 28th annual Global Visions Film Festival. It is the first time the opening night film has been by an Edmonton filmmaker.

Broke. world premiered in May at Hot Docs in Toronto and recently completed runs at the Calgary and Vancouver International Film Festivals, receiving rave reviews. It will have two screenings at Global Visions; as the opening night film at 8:00pm on Thursday, November 5 at the Paramount Theatre (10233 Jasper Avenue), with an encore screening Saturday, November 7 at 11:50am, also at the Paramount.

The film chronicles days in the life of an inner city Edmonton pawnshop, run by David Woolfson, who makes his living as a banker of last resort for the poor. Sometimes aided by Chris Hoard, an ex-convict and self-described psychopath, who offers his help for free, Woolfson's store gives us an intimate glimpse into a world most of us do not have to know and many of us refuse to acknowledge.

The documentary is both gripping and funny, prompting Eric Volmers of the Calgary Herald to write, "*There are enough little snippets of drama and comedy found in Dransfeld's wonderful documentary to fill a Shakespearean play. Even the Bard would have had trouble creating the pathos and complexities found in the characters of Broke.*"

Produced, directed and written by Rosie Dransfeld, **Broke.** is produced by ID: Productions Inc., in association with TVO, Knowledge: and SCN. The director of photography was Sergio Olivares, the editor was Scott Parker and Louis Sedmak and Van Wilmott composed the music. The documentary was produced with the participation of the Canadian Television Fund: License Fee Program, Telefilm Canada: Equity Investment Program, with the participation of The Canadian Film or Video Production Tax Credit and produced with the assistance of the Alberta Film Development Program Of the Alberta Government.

For more information and to watch the **Broke.** trailer, go to <www.idproductions.ca>.

The 28th annual Global Visions Film Festival will be held November 5 - 8, 2009.

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To speak with **Broke.**'s writer and director – Rosie Dransfeld – please contact –

Gordon Imlach | G FORCE Publicity | 403.264.3469 | gordon@gforcepublicity.com

