

Shape Films LLC
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FILM PREMIERES AT CARVER THEATER

June 26, 2008, 7:00 PM, Birmingham, AL

The film "Six Blocks Wide," directed by award-winning Yuri Shapochka, will debut at Carver Theater on Thursday, June 26. "Six Blocks Wide," written by local author Teresa K. Thorne, was filmed in Birmingham in November 2007, in Norwood Garden.

The film features an entirely black cast in the story of an inner-city community's struggle against a cruel drug lord. The community's matriarch, "Gran," has decided to fight against the violence her extended family faces. The story, based on Thorne's own experiences as a Birmingham patrol officer, intertwines beauty and heartbreak in a torn community. The work is a compelling look at violence, courage and community.

Ukrainian-born Shapochka chose Birmingham's rapidly growing arts community to share in his vision for this film. Shapochka's team includes cinematographer David Brower and noted actress Tonea Stewart, who is best known for her performance as the grieving mother, Gwen Hailey, in "A Time to Kill." Stewart, who leads the cast, is also known for her recurring role on TV's "In the Heat of the Night."

Shapochka's other works include "High Expectations" which was featured at Birmingham's Sidewalk Moving Picture Festival and was screened for an international audience at the Cannes Film Festival.

Shape Films is a privately held company specializing in independently produced fiction films and documentaries, animation, experimental works and short subjects. The mission of Shape Films LLC is to produce high-quality, thought-provoking films and to create positive influences for our community, despite differences in language, skin color and religious affiliation.

The premiere is a private screening but is open media.

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If you would like more information on this project, please contact Marina Bolshinskaya at 205.383.6368 or Marina@ShapeFilms.com.