

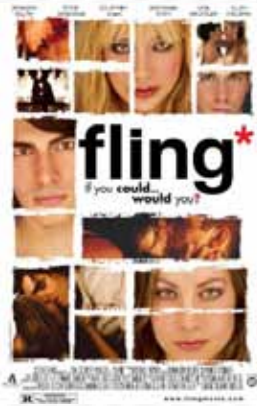
# SHOW-ME SHOWBIZ *bulletin*

June 8, 2009

MISSOURI  
*Missouri Film Commission*  
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## Production Notes

Paramount Pictures' feature film ***Up in the Air*** wrapped shooting in St. Louis in April. The film, starring George Clooney and directed by Jason Reitman (*Juno*), made quite an impact on the St. Louis area. [Read more...](#) The feature ***Winter's Bone*** wrapped five weeks of principal photography in and around Branson. The film is directed by Debra Granik, who won the 2004 directing award at Sundance Film Festival. *Winter's Bone* stars Jennifer Lawrence (*The Bill Engvall Show*) and John Hawkes (*Deadwood*). The film utilized locations in Tancy and Christian counties. [Read on...](#) **Wheaties** filmed a commercial with Cardinal's all-star Albert Pujols in St. Louis in May... **VH1** was in KC at the end of March for a project... The Style Channel shot an episode of ***Split Ends*** in St. Louis in April... The **BBC** and **History Channel** were also filming parts of projects in St. Louis that month... **Silver Dollar City** held a casting call for a commercial to be shot in Branson. Casting was handled by Wright-Laird Casting and took place in Branson as well as Kansas City. For more information visit [Wright-Laird Casting](#)... NBC was in Missouri in late May shooting episodes of a new reality show called ***The Great American Road Trip***. Missouri is one of seven states included in the itinerary, which has 10 families in a cross-country jaunt. Competitions take place at stops along the way. The caravan spent four nights in Missouri, stopping in St. Louis, at Meramec Caverns near Sullivan, Branson and Joplin. Comedian Reno Collier is host for the series. The series will premiere July 8. NBC was mum about the details leading up to the taping but you can read more here... ABC's hit primetime reality show ***Wife Swap*** is looking for families for the new season. Click [here](#) for more information... Conan O'Brien was in St. Louis very briefly on May 17 to film part of a skit for his debut June 1 as host of NBC's ***The Tonight Show***. The spot had O'Brien racing frantically from his old studio location in New York to his new digs in Burbank. Along the way he passed some well-known locales, like Wrigley Field in Chicago, the Las Vegas Strip and, of course, the Gateway Arch in St. Louis... Auditions for ***The Late Show with David Letterman***'s Stupid Pet and Human tricks segment will take place June 27 in Branson, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Town Square of Branson Landing. To qualify for an audition, call 1-800-PET-TRIK or simply click [here](#).



**Top left:** George Clooney walking on set of *Up in the Air* **Top Center:** A shot from *Up in the Air* **Bottom Center:** MO Film's Andrea Sporic with actor James Brodin, Patti Watkins of the KC Film Commission and director Brent Huff at the International Locations Tradeshow in Santa Monica, CA **Upper Right:** Posters for *Fling* and *Killshot*, both filmed in MO  
**Bottom Left:** On set for *Winter's Bone* **Center:** On set of White Rabbits' video, "Percussion Gun" **Bottom Right:** Connie Stevens at the Philadelphia Film Festival.

Lots going on in Columbia: Filmmaker and Jefferson City native Andrew Droz Palermo spent the better part of April making a music video for the Brooklyn-via-Columbia, MO band, **White Rabbits**. The video was filmed over the course of two days in a Columbia warehouse. [Watch the video...](#) Production is to begin on the local feature film **10 Hours a Week**. The movie is written and directed by Columbia native Josh Slates and will shoot throughout the month of June in downtown Columbia.... Filming has wrapped on Mizzou-grad Brian Maurer's film, **Lit**. Maurer hopes to have Lit ready to premier in August on CAT3 (Columbia's local access station) and Ragtag Cinemacafe will screen the film in September. [Read more](#)

A major cable channel is scouting the U.S. for locations for a two-hour television movie to begin production this fall. The production is looking for decaying, dilapidated or damaged buildings and structures. They can be in urban areas, small towns, residential neighborhoods; the larger the area, the better. If you have ideas – and even better, photos – of where these areas can be found, please let us know at [mofilm@mofilm.org](mailto:mofilm@mofilm.org).

## Film Office News

The Missouri Film Commission held its quarterly board meeting on May 18 in Jefferson City. Board members attending were: Chairman Mark Biggs, Springfield; Cindy Sheltmire, Columbia; Jim Palumbo, St. Louis; Shawn McClaren, Kansas City; Bill Lennon, Branson; Rep. Mike Sutherland, Warrenton; Sen. Kurt Schaefer, Columbia; and Sen. Robin Wright-Jones, St. Louis (by conference call). Rep. Leonard Hughes, Kansas City, was unable to attend. The board noted the failure of tax credit legislation, particularly House Bill 767 introduced by Rep. Jason Grill, to pass in the just-completed legislative session. The focus of the meeting then was to begin crafting proposals for tax credit legislation for 2010. The next meeting of the Missouri Film Commission is not yet scheduled, but dates in July and September are being considered.

The Missouri Film Office exhibited at the Association of Film Commissioners International (AFCI) Locations tradeshow in Santa Monica in April. Studio executives, producers, directors, cinematographers, screenwriters and location scouts from all segments of the entertainment industry attended the three-day event showcasing film commissions from around the world. While in Southern California, the Film Office hosted the 4th Annual Missouri Meet-Up: a reception for California members of the entertainment industry with Missouri connections. Held at the historic Roosevelt Hotel in Hollywood, the event drew over a hundred participants, including actress/director Connie Stevens, (**Saving Grace B. Jones**); and director Brent Huff and actors James Brolin and Ed Kerr (**Last Will**). Helping represent Missouri at the reception and trade show were Teri Rogers and Patti Watkins of Kansas City, Beth Conway from St. Joseph, Beth Mead from Columbia and Jerry Jones, Andrea Sporcic and Sherri Helm with the Missouri Film Office. The reception was hosted by the Missouri Film Office, Missouri Motion Media Association (MOMMA), the St. Joseph Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Columbia Convention and Visitors Bureau, St. Louis Convention and Visitors Commission, Kansas City Film Commission and the Missouri Film Alliance of Springfield.

## Other News

Congrats to St. Louis writers Bobbie Lautenschlager and David Fieldler who were finalists in the Beverly Hills Film Festival Screenplay Competition in April. **The Enemy Among Us** is based on the forgotten story of German POWs interned in America's heartland during World War II. More details [here...](#) **Stephen Baldwin** visited Branson on May 22 to deliver the commencement speech at Trinity Christian Academy. Baldwin was invited by friend and father of a graduate, Tony Orlando... **Downloading Nancy**, a film produced by mid-Missouri native and Sundance Film Festival participant Cole Payne, opens in theaters June 5. [View the trailer...](#) The film **Saving Grace B. Jones** had premiere screenings on March 28 and 29 at the Philadelphia Film Festival. Writer/director Connie Stevens attended both screenings along with several of the young actresses who starred in the film.... Check out the web series [The Unreal Housewives of Kansas City](#), made in KC by Kansas Citians.

Be a location scout and win a trip to Branson, a Netflix membership, and movie passes! Help the Missouri Film Commission and Missouri Life magazine find new potential film locations for every season to share with Hollywood producers. For more information on the contest click [here](#).

budding student filmmakers can learn filmmaking and TV production skills this summer at Lindenwood University's Summer Film and TV Camp. The university in St. Charles is offering two sessions: June 15-19 for 9th and 10th graders, and June 22-26 for 11th and 12th graders. The cost is just \$125. For more info click [here](#).

**K**ansas City FilmFest, a hybrid combination of FilmFestKC and the Kansas City Filmmakers Jubilee, kicked off April 22-26th at the beautiful, brand new AMC Mainstreet Theatre in the Power & Light District. The festival opened with the feature *The Only Good Indian*, fresh from its premiere at Sundance, by Lawrence, Kansas, filmmaker Kevin Willmott. Many locally made films were featured, including: *Last Breath*, *Bonnie and Clyde Vs. Dracula* and *Rhubarb Pie*. See the list of award winners [here](#)... Bob Butler, movie critic for the *Kansas City Star*, recently surveyed the filmmaking landscape in KC. Read about it [here](#).

**C**owtown Ballroom... *Sweet Jesus!*, a documentary by KC filmmakers Tony Ladesich and Joe Heyen, chronicles the early 70s heyday of the legendary Kansas City concert venue. It opened last week at the Tivoli in KC and is booked there through June 11. For more click [here](#).



Kansas City's new AMC Mainstreet Theatre, located in the Power & Light District, hosted the Kansas City FilmFest in April.

## Out on DVD

There are several Missouri-made movies hitting the shelves of your favorite entertainment store this month:



**Killshot** was filmed in Cape Girardeau in January 2006



**Fling** (formerly *Lie to Me*) was filmed in Kansas City in May of 2007



**Lucky Cucumber** was shot in Joplin in June of 2007



**Full Count** (formerly *Lenexa, 1 Mile*) was filmed in KC & Lee's Summit in 2005



**Matchmaker Mary** was shot in KC & Lee's Summit in May 2008

## Location Spotlight

### Old Missouri State Prison in Jefferson City

**N**ot limited to just incarceration this multi-building site could be: post-apocalyptic, industrial, urban, sci-fi. The possibilities are endless. Take a look at some photos on this [LINK](#) and if you are interested in attending a location scout of the site this summer, please e-mail Andrea at [sporcica@missouri.edu](mailto:sporcica@missouri.edu)



Photographs of the old Missouri State Penitentiary by Andrea Sporic