

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Theresa Demarest's Documentary *Throwaway Horses* to World Premiere at the
Annual Equus International Film Festival September 11- 14**

***Dr. Temple Grandin will be a special guest presenter
at this year's festival & conference***

Filmmaker Theresa Demarest's exciting Documentary Feature ***Throw Away Horses*** will make its World Premiere on Sunday, September 14th at the Equus International Film Festival in Missoula, Montana. A public discussion and Q&A will follow the film at The Wilma. The film follows stories of brave horses and courageous people working tirelessly to help save them, to educate owners and industry leaders, and to bring about community and governmental change.

The film also sheds light on the thousands of horses that get caught every year in a trap of human neglect, despair, and greed. From the horse racing industry to large and small breeders, down to the individual owner, when a horse is seen as merely a tool or commodity, there is little legal protection or resources for the unwanted horse.

"In the course of making this film, I have met racehorses, show horses, cutting horses, rodeo horses, working draft horses, ponies, "mean" horses, "dangerous" horses, kind horses, forgiving horses and more," says Demarest.

"I have met many types of horse owners: breeders, hoarders, rescuers, blue ribbon trophy-seekers, backyard horse pet owners, first time horse owners, stupid owners, clueless owners, smart intelligent and kind owners. I have met the gamut of those who take the time to learn the horse's language, and those who don't bother. I learned the natural consequences of both of those choices."

The film is Executive Produced by Demarest, Nola Wilken and Claire Demarest, with Editorial Consultant Karla Munguia Colmenero, Videographers Valeria Moonch, Julie Murray and Jeff Hino, with the score composed by Jean-Pierra Garau. The film features Kim Mosiman and Elisabeth Wolf from Sound Equine Options, Joanna Grossman from the Animal Welfare Institute, Katherine Gregory, Sarah Hofkamp and Dan Burak from the Colorado Horse Rescue, professional horse trainer Cezanne Decristoforo, Brett Sanko, Animal Cruelty Investigations Manager Linda Fielder, Dusty Calcagno, Executive Director of Arabian Horse Rescue & Education, and Gabby Sanchez, owner of Wildwood Stables.

EQUUS INTERNATIONAL Film Festival is the premier global venue for award-winning equine films including documentaries, features, narrative and non-fiction, news, music videos, and new media focused on any topic, issue or theme with an equine focus.

Founded in 2011, it was the first international equine film festival, launched as an outreach and education project of Horse Haven Montana, an equine rescue, adoption, and education organization. EQUUS INTERNATIONAL, through media, strives to educate, inspire and advance equine welfare and well-being. The event, scheduled to be held where it was first established, in Missoula, Montana, will feature 3 days of clinics, conference presentations and award-winning films that promote and highlight the bond and partnership between horse and human.

The theme for the 2025 Conference & Film Festival is: **A New Vision in Horsemanship: The Partnership Between Horse & Human.** Dr. Temple Grandin, renowned animal activist and expert on animals and autism, will be a special guest at the festival.

Theresa Demarest is an award-winning musician/producer /independent filmmaker for Joshua Records, LLC in Portland, Oregon. In her films, she utilizes her original music to heighten and musically enhance her message in order to effect positive change in the topics she presents. Her last film *Keiko the Untold Story of the Star of Free Willy* won many awards on the film festival circuit and was featured on Animal Planet.

For more information visit: www.throwawayhorses.com