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Slackery News Tidbits: February 17, 2014

By Jordan Gass-Poore' on February 17, 2014 - 2:00pm in Slackery News Tidbits

Here's the latest Austin and Texas film news.

- Local filmmaker Richard Linklater won the Berlin Film Festival's Silver Bear award for best director for his long-awaited feature Boyhood, which chronicles the life of a child from age six to 18 and stars native Texan Ethan Hawke and Patricia Arquette, Indiewire reports. University alumnus Wes Anderson's movie The Grand Budapest Hotel, slated to hit U.S. theaters March 7, also won the Silver Bear Grand Jury Prize (a kind of runner-up to the Golden Bear for Best Picture).
- Drafthouse Films-distributed documentary The Act of Killing (Elizabeth's review) took home the Best Documentary Feature award at the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) ceremony on Sunday. The Best British Film award went to the movie Gravity, which stars Austin-based actress Sandra Bullock.
- Variance Films has partnered with filmmaker Chris Eska to bring his feature *The Retrieval* (Don's review) to theaters this spring, according to Variety. The Civil War drama tells the story of a boy who is sent north by his bounty-hunter gang to retrieve a wanted man.
- The Austin Film Society will host a special screening of From Dusk Till Dawn, about a duo of criminals and their hostages who unknowingly seek refuge in a bar populated by vampires, on Wednesday, March 5 at the Marchesa Hall & Theatre. Tickets go on sale Feb. 26. Actor Fred Williamson, who played Frost in the movie, will speak at AFS's Moviemaker Dialogue before the screening.
- Fantastic Fest 2013 audience favorite Cheap Thrills (Mike's review) makes its
 U.S. theatrical release on March 21. The comedy thriller follows a financiallystrapped family man who gets roped into a mysterious wealthy couple's series of
 dares.
- On March 20 and 21, donations made to the Austin Film Festival will be doubled and donated to the Children's Blood & Cancer Center at Dell's Children's Medical Center of Central Texas through AFF's participation in this year's Amplify Austin a 24-hour "festival of giving." AFF's support of the children's center continues during spring break, when the nonprofit will host a free stop motion, short movie workshop for patients undergoing treatments.

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