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Slackery News Tidbits: March 3, 2014

By [Jordan Gass-Poore](#) on March 3, 2014 - 10:30am in [Slackery News Tidbits](#)

Here's the latest Austin and Texas film news.

- The Austin-shot film [Hellion](#) has been acquired for US distribution by Sundance Selections (via [Hollywood Reporter](#)). The movie premiered at Sundance this year and will screen at SXSW. Read Debbie's [review](#) and her [interview](#) with filmmaker Kat Candler.
- At the Independent Spirit Awards on Saturday, the Robert Altman Award went to [Mud](#) ([Debbie's review](#)), from Austin filmmaker Jeff Nichols (via [Indiewire](#)). The award is given to a director and ensemble cast -- for *Mud*, the cast includes Austin actor Matthew McConaughey, Tye Sheridan (*Joe*) and Reese Witherspoon. In addition, McConaughey took home the Best Actor award for his role in [Dallas Buyers Club](#) ([Caitlin's review](#)).
- But that wasn't all for McConaughey, who also won an Academy Award last night for Best Actor for *Dallas Buyers Club*.
- In Alamo Drafthouse news, Austin filmmaker [Robert Rodriguez's El Rey Network](#) has partnered with the Drafthouse to screen the premiere episode of [From Dusk Till Dawn: The Series](#), a television adaptation of his 1996 cult film *From Dusk Till Dawn*, on Tuesday, March 11 at nine Drafthouse markets across the country to coincide with its television premiere at 8 pm that day, according to [The Hollywood Reporter](#). Drafthouse founder and CEO Tim League will host a live Q&A with Rodriguez and the series cast following the Austin screening at [Alamo Slaughter](#). This Q&A will be livestreamed into other participating Drafthouse theaters and on the El Rey Network YouTube channel. The Austin-shot *From Dusk Till Dawn: The Series* will be the first scripted original series to air on Rodriguez's new cable network.
- Austin web series [The Pantsless Detective](#) filmmakers announced last week that the series has been accepted into two festivals: [LAWebFest](#) in late March, and the inaugural [Vancouver Web Fest](#) in May. The *noir* spoof ran a successful [crowdfunding campaign](#) last year to complete its first season.
- Austin Film Festival co-founder Barbara Morgan [remembered](#) the life and legacy of acclaimed filmmaker and 2005 AFF Extraordinary Contribution to Film award-winner [Harold Ramis](#) (*Ghostbusters*).
- Finally, Austin moviemaker [Craig Whitney's](#) short [The Garden and the Wilderness](#) ([Jordan's dispatch](#)) is now available for download on [iTunes](#). Whitney, a UT alumnus, was chosen by the Houston Film Commission to represent the state at last year's Texas Filmmaker's Showcase in Los Angeles for *The Garden and the Wilderness*, about an aging ranch hand who learns that the land he has tended for decades will be sold to a developer following the owner's death.

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