

COUNTRY MUSIC DRAMA PRODUCED BY SOCAL NATIVE TO PREMIERE AT THE NEWPORT BEACH FILM FESTIVAL

Father-daughter country music drama PORCUPINE, starring renowned character actor W. Earl Brown, will have its world premiere at the Newport Beach Film Festival.

Brown gained notoriety as Dan Dority in DEADWOOD. He's currently on location shooting Seth Rogen's new HBO show PREACHER, in which he stars as Sheriff Root. Continuing his tradition of playing prickly characters, PORCUPINE sees him in the role of a jaded country music star who gets a visitor from the past on the eve of his induction into the Hall of Fame.

PORCUPINE was produced by Lisa Cirincione, a SoCal native and USC Alum. It was helmed by award-winning director, Sabrina Doyle, a graduate of the AFI Conservatory in Los Angeles. Grammy-winning musician Alex Wand composed the original guitar score.

In the film, Brown, who in real-life is frontman for his own country music band THE SACRED COWBOYS, sings an original country music song called LYIN'. Cirincione, who also co-stars in the movie, joins him for the duet UNLOCK MY SHACKLED HEART.

Brown, a Kentucky native, draws on real-life personalities like Waylon Jennings and T-Bone Burnett to play country music old-timer Owen Talbott, whose world is turned upside-down when he gets a visit from a young woman named Maddie.

Like other country music films preceding it, PORCUPINE deals with themes of heartbreak, family fracture and forgiveness. TENDER MERCIES and CRAZY HEART, for which Robert Duvall and Jeff Bridges both won Academy Awards®, were direct inspirations for the filmmakers.

Alcoholism and paternal abandonment are key themes in PORCUPINE. The toll paid by musicians for their fame evident in every frame of the film. But country music is also the means by which the characters find redemption.

With an original guitar score that draws on the licks and sounds of the era, PORCUPINE is a love letter to country music and the troubled geniuses that created it. Brought to life by a female producer-director team in a year in which “diversity” has become the industry watchword, PORCUPINE is a testament to the powerful stories being told by women in Hollywood.

