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**For Immediate Release**

## **Blues Documentary “Electrified” to Premiere during Sundance Film Festival**

*Special screening of Phil Ranstrom film features live performance  
by Kenny Wayne Shepherd and Hubert Sumlin*

**Chicago (January 16, 2008)** – Sundance will be “Electrified” on Friday January 25<sup>th</sup> at the world premiere of Phil Ranstrom’s blues documentary film [Electrified- The Story of the Maxwell Street Urban Blues](#) at Harry O’s in Park City, Utah. The evening begins at 10:00 pm and features a screening of the film and a live performance by acclaimed blues guitarist [Kenny Wayne Shepherd](#) and blues legend [Hubert Sumlin](#). Actor [Chevy Chase](#) will be master of ceremonies.

During the intermission between the screening and the live performance, the film’s executive producer Les Walgreen will present a limited-edition “Electrified” guitar donated by [Fender](#) to online auction house Charity Buzz for [an auction](#) to benefit [The Center for Environmental Education Online](#).

**Electrified** tells the definitive history of the [Chicago blues](#). Narrated by actor Joe Mantegna, the film chronicles how the urban neighborhood of [Maxwell Street](#) created a unique environment of commerce and cooperation that led first to the hard-driving sound of the urban blues, and ultimately to rock and roll.

Interviews with many of the legendary bluesmen who “studied at Chicago’s Maxwell Street school of music,” including [Buddy Guy](#), [Junior Wells](#), [Charlie Musselwhite](#), [Jimmie Lee Robinson](#) and the “father of rock and roll” [Bo Diddley](#), complement the film’s historical narrative and create an exceptional history of this important era in American music.

A companion film, [Cheat You Fair: The Story of Maxwell Street](#), documents the last days of the historic Maxwell Street market. It [premiered](#) to critical acclaim at the Chicago International Documentary Film Festival in April 2007, and is scheduled to be shown at the Amnesty International venue at Sundance January 18-20 and the [Gene Siskel Film Center](#) in Chicago on February 2.

Both **Electrified** and **Cheat You Fair** were written, directed and produced by longtime Chicago resident and Emmy-nominated producer Phil Ranstrom who began the projects in 1994 shortly before the Maxwell Street market was demolished.

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*This event is not sanctioned, affiliated, or an official sponsor or program of the Sundance Film Festival.*

Short clips from **Electrified** and **Cheat You Fair** on [YouTube](#) at <http://www.youtube.com/maxwellstreetdoc>