

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
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## **CARPET RACERS: A CRASH COURSE** **World Premiere at the 2009 Queens International Film Festival**

**Director Jay Thames and Executive Producer Michael Rooney to be in attendance as the film unspools at the Frank Sinatra Center, November 13th -- 8 PM EST**

*Carpet Racers: A Crash Course* a feature length documentary that delves into the subculture of professional, competitive radio control race car drivers will World Premiere on November 13, 2009 at 8 PM, at the Frank Sinatra Center, 35-12 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Astoria, NY 11106.

Filmmakers Jay Thames and Michael Rooney have spent over three years interviewing, filming and editing the little known, yet rabid world of radio control, where grown men and women who make their living, or try to, race cars the size of shoeboxes around tracks the size of tennis courts – all at 60 miles per hour. Over 170 hours of footage was shot at major radio control events like *The Snowbird Nationals* in Orlando, Florida and *The International Indoor Championships* in Las Vegas, Nevada and at local tracks around the United States from California, to Texas, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, and New York.

The film is the directorial debut of Jay Thames (*Automatic, Yesterday Was A Lie*) and is executive produced by Michael Rooney (*Automatic, Pittsburgh Steelers Film Productions*) of Pittsburgh, PA. Jonathan Walls (*Playing For Change*) and Oliver Noble served as editors of the film, which took more than 16 months to edit into a feature film. More information about the film and the world of carpet racing can be found at the website: **[www.carpetracers.com](http://www.carpetracers.com)**

Celebrating the World Premiere of *Carpet Racers: A Crash Course* there will be an after-party around the corner at the Studio Square Beer Gardens with a live musical tribute to *Levon Helm* featuring national recording artists *Jarrett Schaub* and his band, *Billy Ray Reynolds*, *Guy Forsyth* and musical guests *Connie Nelson* and *Waylon Payne*. The event extends beyond the world premiere to celebrate the Thomas Elsasser Fund, benefiting the FDNY families of fallen NYC firefighters.

The Queens International Film Festival enters its 7th year as it provides a stage for national and international filmmakers and screenwriters. Celebrities from all over the world mingle with tens of thousands of movie buffs as they screen over 40 films annually. The Queens Film Festival brings a tremendous economic impact to the Queens area of New York City and at the same time the benefits of positive national and international press coverage. The Festival has established an enviable track record as a place where dreams do come true.

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