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For Immediate Release  
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March 5, 2007 (Los Angeles, California) Writer/director Emily Skopov's  
**NOVEL ROMANCE** to have US Premiere at the Other Venice Film Festival (OVFF).

The charming romantic comedy, which asks the question "if life is a story, who is its author?" features TRACI LORDS as Max Normane, a literary editor whose biological window to become pregnant is rapidly closing and PAUL JOHANSSON, star of CW's hit drama "One Tree Hill," and recently seen with Bruce Willis in Nick Cassavetes' "Alpha Dog," plays Jake Buckley, the eccentric novelist Max selects to father her child. SHERILYN FENN and veteran actress MARIETTE HARTLEY round out the cast.

TRACI LORDS, who sparkles in **NOVEL ROMANCE**, flashed onto the American scene in 1986 as a teenager who had fled an abusive home and wound up in the adult film industry. She went on to study at the Lee Strasberg Theatre Institute and pursued a legitimate acting career. Of her time in "adult" films she says, "The past is the past, and I'm done with all that." Since then she has received high praise for her work on hit TV shows such as "Melrose Place" and "Profiler", and has appeared in many high-profile films, among them "Cry-Baby" starring Johnny Depp and with Wesley Snipes in "Blade." She has just starred opposite Bill Pullman in "Your Name Here" a biopic about the life of the brilliant sci-fi writer William Frick.

Director EMILY SKOPOV says she set out to make a film filled with "unique, memorable and intelligent three-dimensional characters."

Gary Ellenberg, the Artistic Director of OVFF, has high expectations for **NOVEL ROMANCE**. "An emotional comedy that is literary, enjoyable, and extremely well acted. Emily Skopov shows intelligence and a confident directorial hand."

Not to be confused with the world's oldest film fest in Italy, the OVFF ([www.othervenicefilmfest.com](http://www.othervenicefilmfest.com)) is dedicated to screening full-length, short and animated films that embody the spirit, energy and diversity of Venice, CA -- an epicenter for LA artists and filmmakers who continue to pave the way toward expanding the language of underground, alternative cinema.

Founded in 2004, the OTHER VENICE FILM FEST has grown from 17 films shown at one venue in its inaugural year to works by 90 filmmakers screening at two venues at the 4th Annual OVFF in 2007.

*NOVEL ROMANCE* will be screened on Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup> @ 3pm at the Electric Lodge in Venice.