

RUNNING WILD

→ THE LIFE OF DAYTON O. HYDE ←

“Running Wild” To Be Shown At newportFILM At The Newport International Polo Grounds in Rhode Island

Film marks the inspiring journey of a remarkable South Dakota cowboy who triumphs in his quest to protect wild horses and the American West.

New York, NY – June 3, 2013 – Free Running Films is pleased to announce the participation of **Running Wild: The Life of Dayton O. Hyde** at **newportFILM** in Rhode Island, Thursday, August 8, 2013. This cinematic adventure explores the compelling life of Hyde, a cowboy conservationist who has dedicated his life to protecting the wild horses, land and water of the American West. It is a captivating story of incredible determination and accomplishment, heartwarming and poignant emotional moments. **Running Wild** features spectacular footage of wild horses, Hyde’s Black Hills Wild Horse Sanctuary in Hot Springs, South Dakota and his Yamsi Ranch in Oregon’s Klamath Basin. The film marks Emmy Award winning producer Suzanne Mitchell’s feature directorial debut and was executive produced by two time Academy Award winner Barbara Kopple.

Running Wild and Dayton O. Hyde have received incredible audience response at the film’s previous showings at the Slamdance Film Festival, Sedona International Film Festival, Cinequest Film Festival, Palm Beach International Film Festival, and at Sioux Fall’s Cinema Falls screenings. The film just received both the Sarasota Film Festival Audience Award for Best Documentary Feature, and the Black Hills Film Festival Award for Best Documentary. At Cinequest, **Running Wild** was voted to Audience Favorite status, resulting in an encore screening. The film has been screened to sold out, standing ovation audiences who have left theaters awed and inspired. **Running Wild will be shown on Thursday, August 8 at 8pm at the Newport International Polo Grounds at 715 East Main Road, Portsmouth. The film will be preceded by an hour-long concert performance by singer/songwriter and Running Wild soundtrack composer Steve Poltz, beginning at 7pm.** Admission to the concert and film is free (suggested donation at the event is \$5). To RSVP for the concert and film or for further information, please visit www.newportfilm.com.

The film chronicles Hyde’s dramatic journey of challenges and successes that began in Michigan and took him across the West. From rodeos, conservation battles and wild horse rescues to his award-winning books, personal heartbreak and new found love, **Running Wild** is the self-told tale of a 6’5” cowboy who demonstrates the importance of defending our natural world. Dayton has a breathtaking 12,000-acre prairieland sanctuary, where more than 500 mustangs rescued from the controversial wild horse roundups in the west, slaughter or misery now run free. The film includes never-before-seen footage of a Lakota Naming Ceremony, held to recognize Hyde as a protector of sacred land. Hyde continues to fight to protect the land and reveals his current effort against a uranium mining company that is poised to pollute the water and contaminate the ecosystems that support the residents, wildlife, and horses of the Black Hills. At 88, Hyde says, "It's going to be my last great battle, but I'm going to win this one."

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Upon meeting Hyde years ago, Mitchell was captivated by his passion for wildlife, the clatter of hooves on the prairie, and by the stunning backdrop of the Cheyenne River and Black Hills. She immediately began filming. Said Mitchell, "I had to make a film about this incredible man who has handed his heart over to the West and accomplished so much through sheer will." Mitchell has created television series, specials and documentaries and has won awards including two Emmys, two Gracie's, and an Omni Intermedia Award. Producing celebrated specials for Oprah, HBO, A&E and others, Mitchell collaborates and produces a number of documentaries with Kopple.

Running Wild is scored with an original soundtrack and soon to be released album by singer/songwriter Steve Poltz, featuring the singles "Song For Hawk" and "I Pray It Never Comes To This" on Arrival Records. Poltz' music has charted on Billboard and various radio charts and he is as well known for his impressive collection of ballads, rockers and uniquely melodic finger picking acoustic tunes as he is for "You Were Meant For Me," which he co-wrote with Jewel. Steve debuted live performances of songs from the film's soundtrack at the Slamdance Film Festival in January 2013, accompanied by Allie Gonino on violin/vocals (actress ABC Family's "The Lying Game"), John Castro on bass and Jeff "Stinky" Aafedt on percussion/drums (both formerly of The Rugburns). Poltz delivered heartfelt acoustic performances of songs featured in the film's soundtrack to theater audiences at the Cinequest, Sedona, Palm Beach, Sarasota, and the Black Hills film festivals. Having just returned from major showcase performances at the Folk Alliance and SXSW, Poltz is actively touring and will open Jewel's west coast concerts this summer.

Suzanne Mitchell, Dayton O. Hyde, and Steve Poltz are available for interview.

Film Credits: Director and Producer: Suzanne Mitchell, Editor: R.A. Fedde, Cinematographer: Mauro Brattoli, Executive Producer: Barbara Kopple, Executive Producers: Robert Johnson and Alejandro Perez

About newportFILM: newportFILM was founded in 2010 to nurture discovery and encourage community dialogue through the art of documentary film. More than a festival, newportFILM brings year-round programming that features filmmaker conversations, premiere parties and panel discussions. The program includes "newportFILM YOUTH," an inspiring series that showcases films for ages 2 - 18, "newportFILM GREEN SCREEN," a collection of documentaries that raise awareness on environmental issues, and "newportFILM OUTDOORS," a summer-long sunset series, which brings films out of the traditional theater setting to unique outdoor landscapes. The newportFILM OUTDOORS summer series is presented by Kirby Perkins Construction. For more information, please call 401-649-2784 or visit www.newportFILM.com

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For information, photos, film clips, interviews:

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Links:

Running Wild website: www.runningwildfilm.com
Running Wild on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/runningwildfilm>
Running Wild on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/RunningWildUSA>
Black Hills Wild Horse Sanctuary website: www.wildmustangs.com
Dayton O. Hyde website: www.daytonohyde.com
Steve Poltz: www.arrivalrecords.net/artists/StevePoltz.html
Steve Poltz "I Pray It Never Comes To This" and "Song For Hawk" from the film's soundtrack on iTunes:
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/album/i-pray-it-never-comes-to-this/id592227025> and
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/album/song-for-hawk-from-running/id604421114>