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PRODUCTION BEGINS ON “THE SMILING MAN”
Local Independent Filmmaker Brings Noir Gumshoe to Life

San Francisco, CA – Based on the short story by Keoni Chavez, “The Smiling Man” takes private detective Nick Chambers on a hunt for a mysterious missing person, as well as sending him down a dark road of self-examination.

Local artist B.J. West (known for his work on the best-selling computer game series “The Sims”) is directing the noir short. No stranger to the misanthropic detective, West is one of Nick’s creators and was the editor of “Fog City Nocturne” (2006, Apocryphile Press), the anthology in which “The Smiling Man” first appeared.

Nick is portrayed by Chris Hudak, another local writer infamous for his pithy articles on technology, travel and the games industry. Nick’s enigmatic client, Derek Halcyon, is played by the story’s author, Keoni Chavez. Other cast members include fellow “Fog City” authors John Mabry and Bryan Tolin, and special appearances by Roger Quan as Gino and Jinx McCombs as Nick’s Mother.

Shot entirely in San Francisco on digital video, “The Smiling Man” has a projected running time of 45 minutes, and will be released via DVD around January 2007.

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“Fog City Nocturne” is published by Apocryphile Press, distributed by Ingram Books, and is available through all major online booksellers.