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### **THE MOON AND THE SON EARNS OSCAR® NOMINATION**

New York, Jan. 31 – The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has nominated **The Moon and the Son** for Best Animated Short Film. This is the first Academy Award® nomination for animator/writer/producer John Canemaker and co-producer Peggy Stern.

**The Moon and the Son** is a 28-minute film that explores the difficult emotional terrain of father/son relationships as seen through Canemaker's own turbulent relationship with his father. Featuring the voices of noted actors Eli Wallach and John Turturro in the roles of father and son, it combines memory, fact, conjecture, trial transcripts, audio recordings, home movies, photos, and original animation to tell the story of an Italian immigrant's troubled life and the devastating consequences of his actions on his family.

Canemaker, a noted independent animator, author and animation historian, created animated sequences for the HBO documentary **You Don't Have to Die**, which won an Oscar® for Best Documentary Short Subject in 1989. He is director of the animation program at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts.

Stern is an award-winning independent producer and director. A graduate of Harvard University, she has specialized for more than 20 years in films that focus on personal, cultural, and social issues. **The Moon and the Son** is Stern and Canemaker's second collaboration, having previously worked on **Galaxy Classroom**, a live-action/animated series produced in conjunction with WGBH in Boston.

**The Moon and the Son** is one of 5 films that will compete in the animated short category at the 78<sup>th</sup> Academy Awards® ceremony, to be held in Hollywood on Sunday, March 5, 2006. The other nominees are: **Badgered**, A National Film and Television School Production, Sharon Colman; **The Mysterious Geographic Explorations of Jasper Morello** (Monster Distributes), A 3D Films Production, Anthony Lucas; **9**, A Shane Acker Production, Shane Acker; **One Man Band**, A Pixar Animation Studios Production, Andrew Jimenez and Mark Andrews

**The Moon and the Son**, an HBO – Cinemax animated documentary film presentation, will premiere on Cinemax later this year.

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