

Contact: Katherine VanHenley
Tel. 323-337.9055
Email: kvanhenley@yahoo.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OAKLAND FILMMAKER: PLACES AS FINALIST IN ON THE LOT
Spielberg/Burnett reality show a vehicle for success

Out of 12,000 applicants worldwide, Oakland's Mateen Kemet was chosen to compete against 49 other filmmakers for a \$1M development deal with Dreamworks Studios. Not only did Kemet place 7th in this internationally aired reality show, he was the only African American contestant, repeatedly earning America's votes throughout his eight weeks of competition. Due to outstanding finish, he leaves the show with a 2 year First Look deal with Dream Works Studios.

Following his success on the show, the Oakland Cultural Funding Program has made him an honoree and keynote speaker for their First Annual Oakland Arts Day Ceremony on October 5th, 2007. Portions of his work will screen continuously throughout the day and he will address issues within his work as well as his experience, On and Off the Lot, as a Bay Area Filmmaker. Later that evening a montage of his work will be featured as part of the Great Wall of Oakland, screening at 20th and West Grand. He also will be a featured panalist at the Oakland International Film Festival on October 20th. Additionally, Kemet's short film *Oakland b Mine*, which was commissioned by the Port of Oakland, will be screened on a new media display housed in the Southwest Airlines terminal of the Oakland airport later this year. And On November 13th, 2007, the Oakland film Commission will screen his award winning film *silence* as part of their bi-monthly Local Focus Screening Series at the Oakland Metro.

Since graduating from film school in 2003, Kemet has made quick strides towards international acclaim, including an invitation to FESPACO in Burkina Faso, West Africa – the world's largest Arts Festival of the African diasporas, where he won the Special Director's prize . Locally, the San Francisco Arts Council awarded him with a Cultural Equity Grant for his latest script, *The Fillmore Flower* which is scheduled to go into production early 2008.

His rapid progress propelled by *On the Lot*, Mateen Kemet is on his way to becoming a major player within the film industry.

#

If you'd like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview with Mateen Kemet, please call him at 323.646.4118 or email him at info@runawayfilmworx.com