

#### **FINAL STOP**

### Sennheiser presents 3D audio thriller

Wedemark, 22 August 2018 – The rustle of a newspaper, the sound of the bus engine far away, the steps of the stalker in the pitch-black night: The hairs on the back of every neck will stand up, thanks to the incredibly realistic 3D sound in Sennheiser's short film <u>FINAL STOP</u>. Writer and director Roxanne Benjamin uses the soundscape to create a thrilling atmosphere, with stunning audio recorded using Sennheiser's AMBEO SMART HEADSET. The result is a gripping 3D audio thriller.

In FINAL STOP, the protagonist played by Australian actress Phoebe Tonkin is on her way home from the city on a night bus. She soon notices a man in the back of the bus whose face is covered by a hood. The more people get off the bus, the closer he gets to her. Fearfully, she finally gets off the bus in an abandoned part of the city where she hopes to shake off her pursuer. But as soon as she leaves the bus she realizes she did not get off alone.



FINAL STOP's protagonist is played by Australian actress Phoebe Tonkin.

## Less dialog, more sound

Even though director Roxanne Benjamin made FINAL STOP without any dialog, she created an astonishingly realistic and thrilling cinematic atmosphere. FINAL STOP was recorded in immersive 3D audio, using just a smartphone and recording most of the audio with



Sennheiser's AMBEO SMART HEADSET which was developed with A/D conversion specialist Apogee.

The incredibly realistic 3D sound recorded by the headset makes horror and shocking moments appear more intense than ever before. One of the passengers rustles his newspaper in the front of the bus, a couple argues to the protagonist's right while behind her, she senses someone watching her. These authentic sound experiences give the viewer the feeling of sitting in her seat.



Director Roxanne Benjamin shot FINAL STOP on just a smartphone and recorded most of the audio with Sennheiser's AMBEO SMART HEADSET.

"Since we structured the short around the use of 3D audio, I kept the camera largely behind Phoebe, so that audiences really felt that fear of being followed. This was the element that struck me the most about the AMBEO SMART HEADSET when I was first testing it out – just how effective it could be in enhancing a narrative horror setting. The 3D element really brings you a whole lot closer to the action and feeling like you're right there with Phoebe as she's experiencing this fear. It'd be fascinating to see it being used for a full thriller or horror feature," said Roxanne Benjamin. Uwe Cremering, Director AMBEO Immersive Audio at Sennheiser, added: "We wanted to let viewers experience the remarkable emotional quality 3D audio can lend to any film and with FINAL STOP, Roxanne tapped the full potential of the AMBEO SMART HEADSET in providing a frighteningly lifelike audio experience."

# At home in the genre

FINAL STOP director Roxanne Benjamin is rooted in the thriller and horror genre. As a producer, screenwriter and director, Benjamin has broken new ground and established her own understanding of horror with episodic films such as Southbound, XX and the V/H/S



series. She is currently in post on the survival thriller Body at Brighton Rock, which she wrote and directed.

Leading actress Phoebe Tonkin also has genre experience: In 2012 she appeared in the horror movie Bait 3D and joined the cast of The Vampire Diaries. The young Australian became known to a broad audience through her role in the series H2O: Just Add Water, in which she played one of the main characters, Cleo. For this role, Tonkin was nominated in the "Best Lead Actress in Television Drama" category at the prestigious Australian Film Institute Awards in 2008.

Watch FINAL STOP here.

www.sennheiser.com/finalstop

### **ABOUT SENNHEISER**

Shaping the future of audio and creating unique sound experiences for customers – this aim unites Sennheiser employees and partners worldwide. Founded in 1945, Sennheiser is one of the world's leading manufacturers of headphones, microphones and wireless transmission systems. With 21 sales subsidiaries and long-established trading partners, the company is active in more than 50 countries and operates its own production facilities in Germany, Ireland, Romania and the USA. Since 2013, Sennheiser has been managed by Daniel Sennheiser and Dr. Andreas Sennheiser, the third generation of the family to run the company. In 2017, the Sennheiser Group generated turnover totaling €667.7 million. www.sennheiser.com

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