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Virtual Reality Experience immerses you in the modern female reality *Alabama native's film screens at Sidewalk Film Festival, August 19 through 25*

[BIRMINGHAM, AL/LOS ANGELES, CA, August 2019] - Alabama Native and University of Alabama alumnus Meredith Riley Stewart is headed to Birmingham's very own Sidewalk Film Festival in August with her immersive VR experience SEE ME.

Dubbed the future of film by trend watchers, Virtual Reality changes your role as a viewer. With eyes and ears enveloped by a VR headset, you no longer simply watch, you deepen your sensory experience. In our society, gender disparity has touched every woman in ways both subtle and unconcealed. The experimental VR project SEE ME is an examination of the stripped-down female reality in today's climate, compelling both male and female audiences to lay bare their attitudes about the current patriarchal confines of modern culture.

Working as a producer in Hollywood, Riley Stewart is a force. A 21st century mash-up of sophistication and wise-crackery, she imbues her Southern charm into every project she takes on. She is currently touring the country's festival circuit with SEE ME, and is simultaneously in production for *The Inheritance*, a family-friendly comedy written by award-winning Alexandra Boylan (*Catching Faith, Bellflower*). The film follows 30-year-old one-hit-wonder rock star Kasey, who returns home alongside her estranged siblings to bury their mother and claim their inheritance.

Riley Stewart attached herself to *The Inheritance* in part to bring the production back to the region she called home for her formative years. In return for donations, investments and Phenix City/Columbus, GA locals lending their properties as filming locations, Riley Stewart and her production team plan to create more than 30 jobs and around \$500,000 in spending to the local economy during the several months of production.

SEE ME will screen at the 21st Sidewalk Film Festival, between August 22 and 25 in Birmingham in the VR block at the Lyric Theater in downtown. Watch as these women strip off their confines and emerge ready to be truly seen.

If you would like more information on this VR experience and release at Sidewalk, please call Meredith Riley Stewart at 215 837 4621 or e-mail <u>mrileystewart@gmail.com</u>. Thank you.

About Meredith Riley Stewart:

Originally from Phenix City, Riley Stewart earned bachelor's degrees in Dance and Biology at the University of Alabama. Stewart danced professionally in Philadelphia, then worked in New York as an actor before moving to Los Angeles, where she works as an actor and producer. Her

acting chops have been displayed in full force on shows like *Scandal* (ABC), *Days of Our Lives* (NBC), *Devious Maids* (Lifetime), *Criminal Minds: Beyond Borders* (CBS), *Boardwalk Empire* (HBO) and Martin Scorsese's *The Wolf Of Wall Street* (2013).

Riley Stewart co-produced *Flip The Script*, the first digital series by Women in Film. She also created two original sketch comedy series: *AutocorrectFU*, hilariously over-the-top reenactments of autocorrected text conversations; and *Southern Dish*, about a Southern belle dropped in the Big Apple, embracing the culture clash instead of fighting it.

