

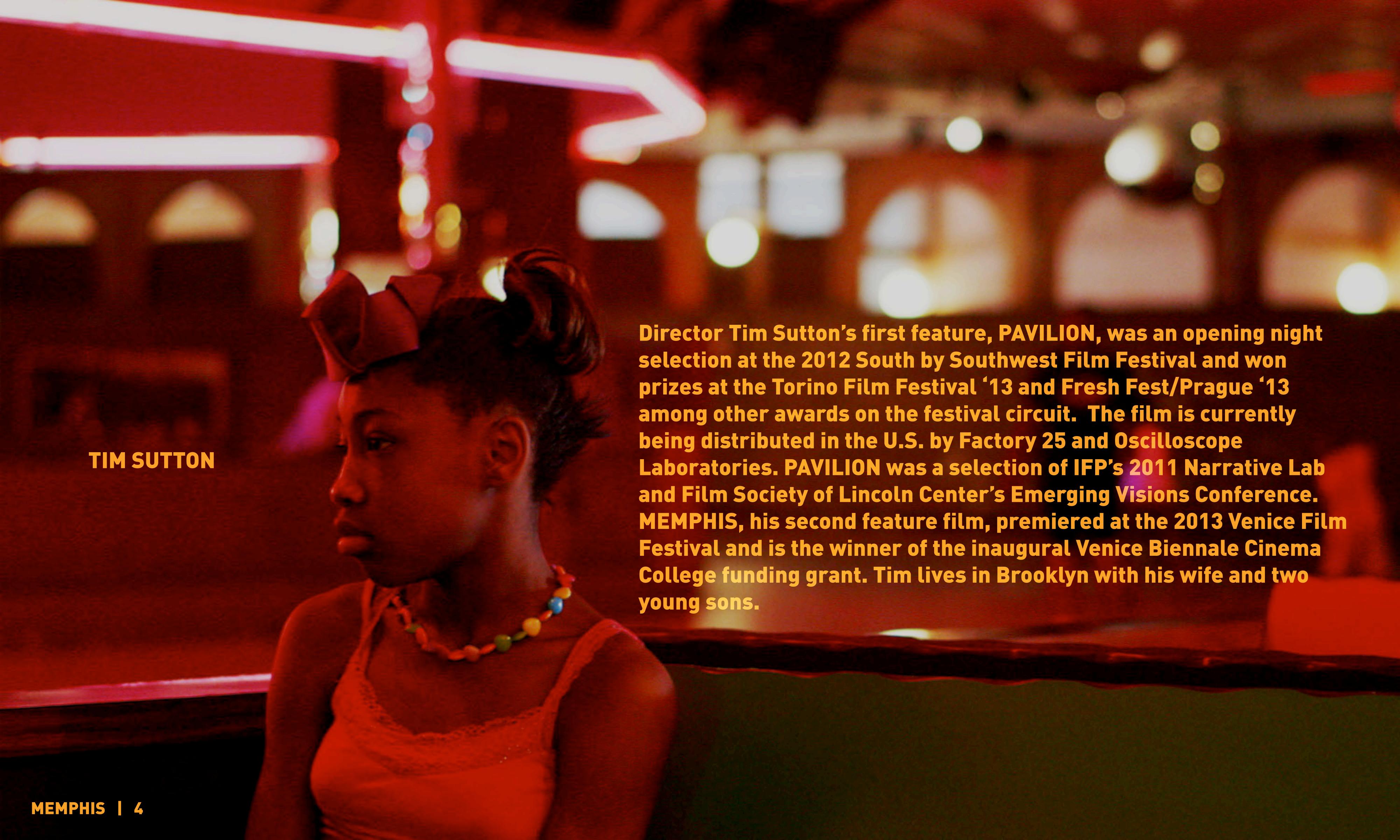
It is legend in Memphis that a blessed and cursed singer by the name of O.V. Wright fell from grace and was buried in an unmarked grave. I learned of his myth around the same time I was brought

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

the same time I was brought to Peace Baptist Church, and witnessed a deep spirituality as ancient as the oak trees that dress every street in the city. A true believer in ghost stories and a scholar of African American studies, I was drawn to tell my own folk tale, and there was only one place on my mind. Our film captures the descent of a troubled singer as he drifts through an urban landscape looking to save his very soul. We surrounded ourselves with real Memphians and made a film that hopes to project a cool, beautiful world - as old as dirt and yet entirely new, and deserved of the title

MEMPHIS.







WILLIS EARL BEAL

'This is Beal in a nutshell: Confident in his ideals, in so much as he's also conscious of their every accompanying contradiction. He's living out this musician's odyssey, but worries the rug's about to be yanked out from underneath him. He followed his heart to art and music, but now his work is part of a capitalist exchange. He loves to write and record, but hates touring and admits he's not equipped for this business. "I want to make a little mark," he says. "I don't know what kind of mark I'm gonna make, but I wanna make a mark so that I can get the hell out." But despite, or maybe because of, all those dualities, Beal believes he's getting what he wants: "Some sort of spiritual, psychological, metaphysical awakening. I'm experiencing this side of the spectrum, just like I experienced the other side."

Rolling Stone, September 4th, 2013



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Critical appraisal of Tim Sutton's previous feature film, PAVILION.

"Seventy ephemeral minutes. You slip from image to image, pulled along by their beauty."

Manohla Dargis, The New York Times, Critics Pick

"Exquisite beginning to end."

Amy Taubin, Art Forum

"A startlingly perceptive first feature."

Eric Kohn, Indiewire

PRODUCTION COMPANY

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memphis-film.com

Runtime - 79 Minutes
Format - HD, Color
Aspect Ratio - 16:9
Sound - 5.1, Stereo
Country of production - USA
Language - English