



Photo by Alex von Kleydorff

**FILM SET** Filmmaker Paul Anthony stands inside *A Timeless Journey*, a comic book shop on Summer Street in Stamford which was one of the locations he used in his film, "Friendship."

# Stamfordite set to debut his latest film

By CHASE WRIGHT

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## Film premiere

> The third and final installment of Paul Anthony's short film series, titled "Friendship," will premiere at the New Canaan Library's Adrian Lamb room on Thursday, Oct. 9 at 7 p.m.

> The event is free.

STAMFORD — It's possible you've seen independent film-maker Paul Anthony on location in Stamford, with the few members that comprise his film crew, and mistakenly identified them as Hollywood bigshots.

They use the same creativity seen in your favorite films, but they work with far less money. In fact, they work with no money.

Anthony's latest film, "Friendship," was shot entirely in lower Fairfield County. To see this final installment in the Stamford resident's three-part series of short films, guests can attend a free premiere at the New Canaan Library's Adrian Lamb room on Thursday, Oct. 9 at 7 p.m.

The films, based on the short story "Revenge," written by friend and former Stamford resident Doug Edwards, began as a fun project for Anthony and his staff in the summer of 2000.

Anthony began experimenting with film as a high school student. His love for the arts transferred over to college, where he graduated with an art degree from the University of Rhode Island. He now runs the photo lab at Fairbanks Photo in Darien.

"Filmmaking is like a hobby for me," says Anthony. "A hobby that never wore off."

Like most independent film artists, Anthony has been forced to work with limited dollars. He had to do away with all the police chases and elabo-

rate explosions to create a unique rendition of "Revenge" that was easy on his wallet.

Like the two films preceding it, "Friendship" is shot entirely in black and white 16 mm camera.

There's no underlying significance to that, says Anthony. "It's just easier to edit in black and white," he said.

He also experimented with editing in digital format for the first time. It's paid off, he says. "Friendship" is his most polished film to date, he said, which will be instantly noticeable to anyone who has seen the first two films.

The movie begins where Anthony's previous movie, "Somebody," left off. The main character, Rob, discovers that his friend has committed suicide, and he wrestles with the decision to carry out his dead friend's final wishes.

Filmed mostly in Stamford, many of the movie's scenes were shot in areas that city residents will easily recognize, such as the pointed tower at the First Presbyterian Church of

Stamford, *A Timeless Journey* comic book shop on Summer Street, the skate park at Scalzi and the former cherry trees at Mill River Park. There are some ambient scenes that feature the high-rise buildings located downtown as well.

"It just made sense to shoot in Stamford," said Anthony.

A Springdale resident for more than eight years, Anthony acts as the film's director. His cast is compiled mostly of friends and area residents, whose only benefit was the chance to perform in a unique independent film.

The film series was Kim Scofield's first, and it was no easy role. Playing the part of a drug addicted floozy, Scofield's character moves from a bustling city to a small suburban town in hopes of manipulating her way to the top, only to find out that deception in a small suburb is not that easy.

It's a far role from the one Scofield plays in real life, she says.

She took the acting opportunity in 2000 as a chance to do something she never did before. Married to Anthony for more than three years now, film has become a bigger part of her life than she ever anticipated it would be.

"It's been a lot of fun," she admits.

"Friendship" runs about 25 minutes in length and, although it is not rated, the mature dialogue makes it unsuitable for children.

"It's an art film," said Anthony, so mature dialogue comes with the territory.