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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Alex Karpovsky (HBO's GIRLS) Screens TJ & Dave Documentary At Unscripted New York Theatre Festival

Unscripted New York Improvised Theatre & Film Festival is proud to host Alex Karpovsky after a screening of the feature film he directed, "Trust Us... This is All Made Up," a documentary on TJ & Dave, as part of our celebration of improvised theatre and film. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Unscripted New York Improvised Theatre & Film Festival will run in Midtown, NYC, May 29 – June 2, 2013 at Theatre 54, 244 West 54<sup>th</sup> Street (12<sup>th</sup> Floor). Mr. Karpovsky will help close out the Festival on Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, with his appearance at Unscripted New York's celebration of improvised film—a selection of fully-improvised short videos, including an Unscripted New York Digital Short that will be created, cast, shot without a script, and edited, entirely during the festival. "Trust Us... This is All Made Up" captures the popular improvised theatre of TJ Jagodowski and David Pasquesi, who have become living legends in improvised theatre, described by The New York Times as a "creative tour de force, an intellectual high-wire act as astonishing as it is entertaining." Alex will share his take on improvised theater and film in a Q&A immediately following. As an actor, Alex currently plays the role of Ray Ploshansky in the HBO comedy series GIRLS and will appear as Marty Green in the upcoming Coen Brothers film, Inside Llewyn Davis. As a filmmaker, Alex has gained praise for several films, such as Red Flag, a partly improvised road film out this year through Tribeca Film.

Showcasing more than 100 performers in a 5-day festival of improvised theatre shows, films, workshops, parties, and more, **Unscripted New York** celebrates artists who work without a script and create their art and tell their stories entirely in the moment. Unscripted New York is a member-initiated production of **Artistic New Directions**, who is proud to once again sponsor this festival and shine a spotlight on quality improvised theatre, like returning 2012 Fest Favorite, **Shackled, featuring Dion Flynn** (**Late Night with Jimmy Fallon**). This year, new improvised shows from across the U.S. will join Unscripted New York, such as the improvised pulp hero anthology, **Strange Worlds**, **from Austin, TX**, and **Storybox**, an improvised character journey **from Chicago**. Unique local alternative theatre abounds in the Festival, such as **Upton Abbey**, an improvised TV show within a live show, and a with a nod to Downton Abbey, of course. Unscripted New York will also offer improvised theatre workshops by nationally-known acting instructors, such as **Michael J. Gellman**, from Chicago's Second City, who will lead a scenic improvisation workshop that culminates in a Festival performance by participants.

## Special Thanks to Smuttynose Brewing Company for donating quality craft beer to be enjoyed by audiences at Unscripted New York!

Unscripted New York Improvised Theatre & Film Festival MAY 29 – JUNE 2, 2013 at Theatre 54, 244 W. 54<sup>th</sup> St. (12<sup>th</sup> Floor), New York, NY

**About AND**: Artistic New Directions (AND) is an arts organization (a 501(c) 3 not-for-profit company) that supports performing artists, writers, directors and their projects from inspiration to production. **Contributions to the Unscripted New York Improvised Theatre & Film Festival and to Artistic New Directions are tax deductible according to law.** 

**Unscripted New York** is a 5-day celebration of improvised theatre & film that seeks to tell a story. The festival will feature workshops and events to bring a higher respect and awareness to the art form and artists involved. Visit our website <u>Unscripted New York website</u>, <u>our Facebook page</u>, our <u>Tumblr</u>, and our <u>Twitter</u> for evolving updates.