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Slackery News Tidbits: May 13, 2013

By [Jordan Gass-Poore](#) on May 13, 2013 - 10:00am in [Slackery News Tidbits](#)

Here's the latest Austin film news.

- Austin filmmaker [Jeff Nichols](#) is slated to write and direct *Midnight Special*, described as a "contemporary science-fiction chase film," for Warner Bros, [Deadline](#) announced. Fellow Austinites [Sarah Green](#) and [Brian Kavanaugh-Jones](#) (*Sinister*) will serve as the movie's producers. The project, currently in development, will re-team Nichols and actor Michael Shannon, who has been in all Nichols' features to date.
- The [Alamo Drafthouse](#) is scheduled to open its largest theater yet, with 10 screens, in north (very north) Austin. The theater will open sometime this July in the new Lakeline Market Shopping Center adjacent to Lakeline Mall. Nearby theater Alamo Lake Creek will remain in business this summer until after the new Drafthouse opens.
- In more Drafthouse news, the company's film distribution arm has acquired the North American rights to British director Ben Wheatley's latest movie, *A Field in England*, according to [IndieWire](#). The horror film, which is scheduled for a theatrical and VOD release later this year, follows a group of soldiers during the English Civil War in the 17th century. They're captured by an alchemist to assist in his search for treasures hidden in a giant mushroom field.
- London-based Eureka Entertainment's Masters of Cinema Series has bought the UK distribution rights to Austinite [Andrew Bujalski's](#) ([Jordan's interview](#)) comedy *Computer Chess* ([Jette's review](#)), [Bleeding Cool](#) reports. Bujalski's feature revolves around chess players and computer programmers at a computer chess tournament in the 1980s. The Austin-shot film premiered at Sundance 2013, then screened at SXSW. Kino Lorber is distributing the movie in the U.S.
- The Invincible Czars will perform an "Austinized" arrangement of the original score to the 1928 silent film *The Wind* on Thursday night at the Bullock Texas State History Museum. The screening with accompaniment is part of the museum's [Women Shaping Texas in the 20th Century exhibit](#), which ends Sunday. *The Wind* (based on the novel by Dorothy Scarborough) tells the story of a young woman from the East Coast who is slowly driven mad after moving in with her cousin on the West Coast, and is scripted by [Frances Marion](#).
- In celebration of its two-year anniversary, [Cinema 41](#) will host its first Bad Movie Bingo Night on Sunday at 10 pm at ColdTowne Theater (4803 Airport Blvd). No prior movie knowledge is required to enjoy this interactive spin on the traditional board game of bingo.
- *The Austin Chronicle* chronicled Austin Studio's physical history on the Mueller Planned Unit Development last week, from its beginnings in 2000 when the city gave Austin Film Society the site, to its final exchange earlier this year with the addition of the former National Guard Armory. The feature also gives a status update on Austin Studios plans to start new construction on the armory.
- In more AFS news, the Austin Film Society Grant Application, formerly known as the Texas Filmmakers' Production Fund, is open for applications. Texas residents seeking funding for their independent productions can apply [online](#) by June 1.

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