

Local Action

LOREN KING

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At Work



Joanna Jefferson/Zachary Lee

Producer Jefferson and writer/director Lee (above) will begin shooting a feature, "Shortness of Breath," in Somerville, where Lee lives, right after Labor Day. The pair met in the Boston University graduate film program and have collaborated on 10 short films under their Roadside Pictures banner. "Shortness of Breath," slated for a three-week shoot with a local cast and crew, is their first feature.

Paying homage to the French New Wave and in particular Jean-Luc Godard's "Breathless," the film is the story of two lovers who, alienated from their pursuit of the American dream, take refuge in the crime films of the 1940s and '50s. "Shortness of Breath" stars Beno Chapman, a local actor who has starred in many of Lee's short films. The feature will be shot on 16mm film and released in 35mm with a target date of fall 2004, says Jefferson.

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