



20<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ONE WORLD FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES  
AWARD-WINNING AND ACCLAIMED LINE-UP FOR THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 1, 2009, OTTAWA -- World Inter-Action Mondiale (WIAM) is pleased to announce the line-up for the 20<sup>th</sup> annual One World Film Festival. The One World Film Festival will be presented over four evenings in October: 15, 23, 29 & 30 at the Library and Archives Canada, doors open at 5:30pm. The feature film on the opening night of the Festival, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:30pm will be the highly acclaimed American film *Milking the Rhino*. Winner of Best Documentary at numerous international film festivals, this film examines the deepening conflict between humans and animals in an ever-shrinking world. It is the first documentary to explore wildlife conservation from the perspective of people who live amongst animals in the wild.

This year's Festival will showcase 16 films featuring issues from 15 very different countries. Each night of the Festival will offer the audience a chance to explore and review issues faced by the global community both at home and abroad. Throughout the Festival there will be six discussions/Q&A sessions, filmmakers in attendance, information kiosks and world music. Each night will be capped off with a fabulous feature film, all Ottawa premieres: *Milking the Rhino*; *Soldiers of Conscience*; *Nollywood Babylon* and *The Choir*.

Screened at this year's HOT DOCS Film Festival, *Audition* presents an exposé of cultural gender relations in Afghanistan on October 23 at 6pm. An in-depth discussion panel will take place following the film. On the same evening at 7:45pm, filmmaker Aeyliya Husain will be present to speak about her experience in Iran filming *Daughters of the Revolution*. This documentary reveals the personal struggles lawyer-activist Mehrangiz Kar undertook following the Iranian revolution, despite the consequences faced by her and her family.

October 29 offers up a fine schedule of films. *To See if I'm Smiling* features female Israeli soldiers offering frank and shocking testimonials of their experiences in Gaza and the West Bank. Following is local filmmaker Steven Hunt's documentary *Rising from the Ashes* that shines a light on the female victims of Peru's civil war. Wrapping up the evening is *Nollywood Babylon*, taking us into the heart of Africa to look at the explosive popularity of movie-making in Nigeria.

Finally, one of the real jewels of this year's Festival is *The Choir*. Presented as the closing film of the Festival, *The Choir* is a beautifully uplifting documentary that looks at how hardened criminals in South Africa's burgeoning prisons are rehabilitated through the power of music and self-belief. Shot over five years by Emmy award-winning director Michael Davie, this powerful film will close the Festival on Friday, October 30 at 9:30pm at the Library and Archives Canada. As a special treat and to get the audience in the mood, we will have the choir Voices of Praise perform prior to the film.

In addition to the regular Festival line-up, the One World Film Festival is excited to announce a partnership with the Masters of Globalization and International Development Student Association at the University of Ottawa. Together we will be holding a bilingual screening and discussion of the NFB production *Has God Forsaken Africa?*. Shocked by the growing phenomenon of young Africans risking their lives to flee a continent scourged by war and endemic poverty, director Musa Dieng Kala returned to his country's capital, Dakar (Senegal) to find an answer to his question: *Has God Forsaken Africa?* Kala will be in attendance along with other guest speakers for the discussion following the film. Event to take place October 26 at 7pm in room UCU 205 at the University of Ottawa.

For more information about WIAM and the One World Film Festival, please contact Micheline Shoebridge at 819 772 4079, [michelines@magma.ca](mailto:michelines@magma.ca) or visit our website at [www.wiam.ca](http://www.wiam.ca).

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The One World Film Festival is brought to you with the support of the following funders:

