

WIAM's 17th Annual One World Film Festival

Thought provoking documentaries on global issues

World Inter-Action Mondiale (WIAM) is proud to launch its 17th annual One World Film Festival, to be held at the Library and Archives of Canada in Ottawa this October.

The four evening festival, running October 11, 13, 18 and 20th, showcases some of the hottest recent docs on social justice issues like globalization, poverty, conflict, health, and the environment. As always, the festival expands on these themes through presentations by renowned guest speakers, musical and performance acts, film-makers, local representatives from related NGOs.

This year's lineup is shaping up to be the best yet, with award-winning films from around the world. WIAM is particularly excited about the "Community Voices and Rhythms" evening on October 13th, which showcases upbeat films on the transformative power of music and self expression. Films like "Favela Rising", about one man's creation of the Afro-Reggae movement to give kids a powerful alternative to Rio's ghetto violence and hopelessness, or "The Refugee All-Stars", about a group of talented refugees from Sierra Leone that form a band to express the depth of suffering in the experiences of a displaced people, creating joy and hope in the process. Both of these films have won awards in festival after festival and contributed to the success of both the heroes and the struggles in these films; they also feature incredibly infectious beats and rhythms!

The Festival also features films on: the creation and evolution of Hamas, the insightful stories of three conscientious objectors imprisoned for refusing to commit atrocities, America's manipulation of Colombian politics and communities, the struggle of Indonesia's poor to find a home after the tsunami while developers move onto their land with the help of the government, an examination of the Ugandan crisis, and the positive results of the Rwandan truth and reconciliation process. Many of these films have also won awards around the world.

As part of the Festival this year there will be a free Film-makers Forum on the afternoon of Saturday, October 14th. You'll get a chance to hear these film-makers discuss their work and the issues first hand. The Forum will be moderated by Sue Stranks of CBC's documentary program: The Lens.

Doors open at 5:30 and each evening includes between 4 and 7 films. Evening passes are \$12 (\$10 for students and seniors). Festival passes for all four evenings are \$40 (\$35 for students and seniors). Food will also be available for sale in the lobby.

For further information, including a complete list of films, go to: www.wiam.ca, or contact WIAM Program Manager Jolynn Somerville at: 613-238-4659 or by email at: jolynn@wiam.ca