

## PRESS RELEASE

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THE UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION USA EAST BAY CHAPTER  
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In Association with



PRESENTS  
THE  
8<sup>th</sup> UNAFF TRAVELING FILM FESTIVAL BERKELEY  
Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>

**WHAT:** Six extraordinary and gripping films presented in two U.C. Berkeley venues over three days. Presenting a wide-ranging view in images about global issues arising from conflict and war which challenge all governments and the United Nations to collaborate on solutions, these films examine in very human terms the deeply disturbing situation regarding global health, disease, and preventable death which impede human development in Africa and elsewhere. These films bring the audience face to face with the devastation and human calamity unfolding in Darfur and expose the abuse of the people of Nigeria by the dumping of toxic technological waste in that country. Each showing will be enriched by knowledgeable specialists who will answer questions and facilitate discussion.

**WHEN/WHERE:** Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. The Festival opens at U.C. Berkeley's International House with two films about the human consequences of conflict and war on Saturday, Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30PM, and continues on Sunday Feb 24<sup>th</sup> with a 2PM matinee showcasing two films focusing on global health issues. Then on Monday at 7PM the Festival moves to U.C. Berkeley's Pacific Film Archive with two thought-provoking films about genocide in Darfur and Toxic Waste dumps in Africa.

- FEB 23<sup>RD</sup> AT 7:30 PM---INTERNATIONAL HOUSE 2299 PIEDMONT AVE., BERKELEY

**“HOT HOUSE” (89 minutes):***Israel/Palestine*. Almost ten thousand Palestinians, designated by the Israeli government as "Security Prisoners," are incarcerated in Israel today. Granted rare permission to film inside the country's highest security facilities, Israeli filmmaker Shimon Dotan shows everyday prison life, including bi-weekly family visits, internal elections, periodic security searches of cells, and relations between inmates and prison staff. *Hothouse* also features interviews with many Palestinian prisoners. Directed by Shimon Dotan

**“THE LOST CHILDREN OF CITÉ SOLEIL” (15 minutes)** *Haiti*. This video documentary describes the situation of child soldiers and the living conditions of children affected by armed conflict in Cité Soleil, a shanty town in Port au Prince, the capital of Haiti. This video includes interviews and

touching testimonies from child soldiers that provide realistic insights on how the rights of children living in such vulnerable conditions are being violated. The documentary was filmed in the “red areas” of Cité Soleil, during a period of fighting and shooting among the different armed groups controlling the territory--the same armed groups recruiting children as soldiers. The video is the result of the courage of the two directors who risked their lives entering these areas to interview the children. Directors Andreas Brandstatter and Jean Buteau Remarque.

- **FEB 24<sup>TH</sup> AT 2:00 PM---INTERNATIONAL HOUSE 2299 PIEDMONT AVE., BERKELEY**

**“ABSTAINING FROM REALITY” (9 minutes) Kenya/Uganda/USA.** Filmed in Kenya and Uganda, this short documentary provides a snapshot of the Bush administration's abstinence-only approach to HIV prevention as part of its global HIV/AIDS assistance. *Abstaining from Reality* examines how these ideologically-driven programs are actually endangering the lives of the people they're supposed to be protecting. Directed by Daniele Anastasion.

**“Salud!” (93 minutes) Cuba/USA.** A timely examination of human values and the health issues that affect us all, *Salud!* looks at the curious case of Cuba, a cash-strapped country with what the BBC calls 'one of the world's best health systems.' Directed by Connie Field.

- **FEB 25<sup>TH</sup> AT 7:00 PM---PACIFIC FILM ARCHIVE 2575 BANCROFT WAY BERKELEY**

**“THE DEVIL CAME ON HORSEBACK” (89 Minutes) Sudan/USA.** Exposes the tragedy taking place in Darfur as seen through the eyes of an American witness who has since returned to the U.S. to take action to stop it. Using exclusive photographs and first-hand testimony of former U.S. Marine Captain Brian Steidle, this film takes the viewer on an emotionally-charged journey into the heart of Darfur, Sudan where an Arab-run government is systematically executing a plan to rid the province of its black African citizens. Directed by Annie Sundberg and Ricki Stern.

**“THE DIGITAL DUMP: Exporting High Tech Re-use and Abuse to Africa” (23 Minutes) Nigeria/USA.** This film exposes the ugly underbelly of an escalating global trade in toxic, obsolete, discarded computers collected in North America and Europe and sent to developing countries by waste brokers and so-called recyclers. Even though there is a robust legitimate market with the ability to repair and refurbish old electronic equipment, as much as 75% of the shipments are junk and discarded and routinely burned in another cyber-age nightmare for developing countries like Nigeria. Directed by Jim Puckett.

**Festival co-sponsors (partial list): STAND-A U.C. Berkeley Student Anti-Genocide Coalition; Electronics Take-Back Coalition, U.C. Berkeley; International House, Institute of International Studies, Dept. of African American Studies, The Center for African Studies, and others.**

**TICKETS: (I-House showings are FREE) Pacific Film Archive Admission is \$8 Seniors/Students: \$5**

**FOR A FULL DESCRIPTION OF THESE FILMS PLEASE VISIT [WWW.UNAUSAEASTBAY.ORG](http://WWW.UNAUSAEASTBAY.ORG) OR [WWW.UNAFF.ORG](http://WWW.UNAFF.ORG) .**

**ABOUT UNAFF:** Conceived in 1998 at Stanford University by film critic and educator Jasmina Bojic in conjunction with the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations Association Film Festival (UNAFF) screens documentaries by international filmmakers dealing with topics such as human rights, environmental survival, women's issues, children, refugee protection, homelessness, racism, disease control, universal education, war and peace. By bringing together filmmakers, the academic community and the general public, UNAFF offers a unique opportunity for creative exchange and education among groups and individuals often separated by geography, ethnicity and economic constraints.

