



NOV 3-9, 2010

**DOC NYC WRAPS SUCCESSFUL FIRST EDITION OF
NEW DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL
AT IFC CENTER AND NEW YORK UNIVERSITY**

FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE SOLD-OUT SCREENINGS,
APPEARANCES BY NOTED FILMMAKERS, AND MEDIA ACCLAIM

New York, NY - November 10, 2010 - DOC NYC, New York's documentary festival, wrapped its inaugural year on Tuesday, November 9th to much acclaim. The festival, presented by IFC Center and New York University's School of Continuing and Professional Studies, included sold-out gala screenings of new films by legendary filmmakers Werner Herzog and Errol Morris; a tribute to director Kevin Brownlow, also the recipient of a 2010 Governors Award from the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences; and over 60 screenings and events in four venues, including IFC Center, NYU's Skirball and Kimmel Centers, and the Ziegfeld Theatre. The festival was widely acclaimed by the press, with raves coming from such publications as the Village Voice, New York Magazine, the Wall Street Journal, the Associated Press, indieWIRE, and Variety.

Among the highlights of the festival's first year were full houses for screenings of Herzog's 3-D CAVE OF FORGOTTEN DREAMS, the festival's opening night gala; the world premiere of the Bruce Springsteen and The E Street Band concert film DARKNESS ON THE EDGE OF TOWN, with band member Max Weinberg and director Thom Zimny at the historic Ziegfeld Theatre; and Errol Morris's latest film TABLOID, followed by a once-in-a-lifetime Q&A that included subject Joyce McKinney surprising the filmmaker and audience by taking the stage—an event now immortalized on YouTube.

Several celebrities made appearances during the course of the festival's week-long run. In addition to more than 30 participating filmmakers, other special guests at DOC NYC included directors Michael Moore, Albert Maysles, and Barbara Kopple, photographer Bill Cunningham, and musicians David Byrne, Philip Glass, and Max Weinberg.

“We’re honored by all the filmmakers and supporters who rallied around the idea of DOC NYC,” said artistic director Thom Powers. “I am especially pleased that so many of the great moments were documented on the festival’s YouTube channel for people to experience far beyond New York City.”

Two competition sections in the festival awarded prizes to the top filmmakers in their categories. For the slate of international documentaries in the “Viewfinders” section, a jury comprised of film critic John Anderson, film writer Christopher Campbell, and Cinereach grant manager Adella Ladjevardi selected named director Laura Israel’s WINDFALL the section’s Grand Prize Winner. The “Metropolis” section, featuring New York stories, was juried by author/producer Nelson George, Tom Hall of the Sarasota Film Festival, and New York Magazine culture editor Mary Kaye Schilling, who awarded TO BE HEARD that section’s Grand Jury Prize, and also awarded a special prize to Josef “Birdman” Astor’s LOST BOHEMIA. Winners of the Grand Jury Prize in both sections received a 35mm blow-up and DCP package from PostWorks and Laser Pacific.

Directed by Roland Legiardi-Laura, Edwin Martinez, Deborah Shaffer and Amy Sultan, TO BE HEARD was also the recipient of the DOC NYC Audience Award, selected by audiences from all films screening in the festival’s two competitive sections.

In addition to screenings and filmmaker discussions, DOC NYC also presented three in-depth panels about documentary filmmaking. “The State of the Industry” examined trends in the business of non-fiction filming with filmmakers Doug Block, Liz Garbus, Gary Hustwit, and industry figures taking part in a discussion moderated by Basil Tsoikos. “Doc Convergence,” an exploration of the ways that documentary film intersects with photography, writing, performance and radio, showcased acclaimed practitioners from various media including This American Life producer Starlee Kline; cartoonists Lynda Barry and Joe Sacco; Pulitzer Prize winning photographer David Turnley; Pulitzer Prize-winning writer Lawrence Wright and Tony-nominated theater director Moises Kaufman. And “State of the Art” assembled leading figures from multiple fields of documentary film including Academy Award winner Ross Kauffman (Born Into Brothels) and nominees Heidi Ewing (Jesus Camp) and Marshall Curry (Street Fight); as well as esteemed cinematographers, editors and producers for dialogues on their crafts.

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