

GLOBAL VISIONS FILM FESTIVAL

Media Conference

Date: Wednesday October 21, 2008

Where: Metro Cinema, Ziedler Hall in the Citadel Theatre

Time: 11am to 11:45

The 28th Annual Global Visions Film Festival To Announce The 2009 Film Lineup

The Global Visions Film Festival, Canada's longest running documentary film festival continues to celebrate the passion and excellence of documentary film from Canada and around the world. On Wednesday October 21, Global Visions will announce it's stellar lineup of engaging films for 2009.

The festival will open on Thursday November 5 with the soon to be documentary classic "**Broke**", the latest from award-winning filmmaker Rosie Dransfeld. Set in a pawnshop located in the mean streets of Edmonton's inner city, Broke tells the story of David Woolfson, a banker of last resort for many of the area's down-and-out residents, and his unlikely friendship with his employee and ex-convict Chris Hoard. Shot in cinema-verite style, director Rosie Dransfeld brilliantly draws us into a world of bargaining, insults, poverty and desperation. **Broke** has won rave reviews at the Hot Docs, Calgary and Vancouver film festivals. CBC broadcaster Jesse Wente calls **Broke** "*a fabulous film, among the best this year. It's cinema verite in the classic sense.*"

Other film highlights include:

- In 1997 Academy Award winner actor Morgan Freeman, offered to foot the bill for the high school prom in his hometown of Charleston, Mississippi - on condition that both black and white students be allowed to attend. **Prom Night In Mississippi** tells the story of the fallout from Freeman's offer, as the school prepares - ten years later -- for its first-ever integrated prom.
- **The Yes Men Save the World:** Andy Bichlbaum and Mike Bonanno have an interesting hobby. Dressed as business executives, they lie their way into business conferences in an attempt to expose corporate execs and their questionable practices. It's a lot like Michael Moore - but with double the trouble.
- **CBQM:** Whether it's reporting wolf sightings, broadcasting bingo games, airing debates on uranium mining or dedicating a hurtin' country tune to a heart-broken local, this NFB film shows how citizen-run CBQM is more than just a radio station to members of the Teetl'it Gwich'in community of Fort McPherson.
- **Ganesh Boy Wonder** tells the story of a working class Indian couple who prayed to the god Ganesh to bless them with a boy, never dreaming their son would actually look like the elephant-headed deity. An accidental meeting leads the family to Dr. Sanjeev Kaila, a Canadian plastic surgeon, who will change their lives.
- **Special Presentation; The Tar Sands; Battle for Public Opinion:** Don't miss this double feature of "**Petropolis: Aerial Perspectives on the Alberta Tar Sands**" which offers an unparalleled view of the world's largest industrial energy project; and **Downstream**, which profiles Dr. John O' Connor's fight for the lives of the Aboriginal people living and dying of rare forms of cancer downstream from the Tar Sands project. Following the screening journalist **Andrew Nikiforuk** author of **Tar Sands: Dirty Oil and the Future of a Continent** will speak.

Please join us as we present our complete lineup of the worlds' finest documentaries on Wednesday October 21. A light lunch will be served. **Global Visions 2009 runs November 5-8** in Edmonton's Downtown Arts District.

For more information or to arrange interviews with filmmakers, please contact Katherine Hoy at:

Ph: 780.431.1184

Email: info@globalvisionsfestival.com

globalvisionsfestival.com