

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

C: sara@lef-foundation.org

September 4, 2014

Revised September 18, 2014



### THE DOCYARD UNVEILS ITS FALL 2014 PROGRAM

#### The Award Winning Series Held at The Brattle Theatre Begins October 6!

CAMBRIDGE, MA — The DocYard, Boston's award winning showcase for documentary film, has announced its 2014 fall program. The series will once again celebrate what is innovative, interesting and inspiring in documentary by screening award winning films from some of the most respected filmmakers working today. The fall series will run from Monday, October 6 through December 15, and will include exciting partnerships with the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, the Boston Jewish Film Festival and Harvard Law School. All but one of the screenings will take place at The DocYard's official home, the Brattle Theatre, Boston's oldest art-house cinema. (One screening, in a special collaboration with the MFA, Boston will be held at the MFA's screening facility.)

This fall, The DocYard will screen new, award winning work from auteurs such as Frederick Wiseman, and Ross Kauffman, and up-and-coming talent like Amanda Rose Wilder. The works come from across the world, including the US, Syria, Germany, Canada, the Netherlands and the UK. The series will open with ***E-Team***, a festival favorite which premiered at Sundance, won the US Documentary Cinematography Award, and has recently been picked up by Netflix. The film, by Ross Kauffman and Katy Chevigny, is driven by the high-stakes investigative work of Anna Neistat, Fred Abrahams and Peter Bouckaert, three members of Human Rights Watch's Emergency Team. The film's narrative is fueled by the strong plot structure that springs from the E-Team's investigative process. This is the first time that Human Rights Watch has allowed an outside team to film their important work on the ground. ***E-Team*** is a rare look inside some of the highest level human rights investigations that take place around the world.

The year's fall series will include a number of recent award winning films including the Sundance Award Winner, ***Return to Homs***. Filmed over three years in Homs, Syria, the film accompanies two outstanding young men from the time they are dreaming of freedom and defending pacifism, to the time when choices are forced to be different. It is the story of a city the world has heard a lot about, but never really got close to. ***Return to Homs*** is a modern times epic of youth in war, and of forced choices.

The series will close with Amanda Rose Wilder's directorial Debut, ***Approaching the Elephant***. The film follows Lucy, Giovanni and director Alex at the Teddy McArdle Free School in Little Falls, New Jersey over

the course of the first year of the school's existence. Classes are voluntary and rules are created by democratic vote. Wilder is there from the beginning, observing an indelible cast of outspoken young personalities as they form relationships, explore their surroundings and intensely debate rule violations, until it all comes to a head.

"This year's fall lineup is a wonderful depiction of how diverse and expressive the documentary form is right now," says Sara Archambault, co-founder and programmer for The DocYard. "We're honored to have the opportunity to collaborate with so many talented filmmakers and local institutions to help ensure that The DocYard continues to be the forum to discuss innovation in documentary."

The DocYard will also continue to screen work with a local connection, and will feature a special collaboration with the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. On November 16, The DocYard and the MFA will present a special screening of master documentarian Frederick Wiseman's new film, ***National Gallery*** followed by a Q&A with the filmmaker himself. "We're honored to collaborate on this special screening, and bring Fred's latest work of art to Boston," says Ben Fowlie, co-founder and programmer for The DocYard. "One of our most memorable DocYard moments was screening his acclaimed film, ***Hospital*** during our first season. It's a pleasure to be involved with the Boston premiere of National Gallery."

All screenings begin at 7pm (except where otherwise noted), and are followed by a Q&A moderated by filmmakers Robb Moss, Jane Gillooly, Paul Turano, and others. Season passes are \$60 (\$50 if purchased before September 19) and can be purchased online now at [www.thedocyard.com](http://www.thedocyard.com). Individual tickets for each film are \$10 and can be purchased online at [www.brattlefilm.org](http://www.brattlefilm.org) or prior to show time at the Brattle Theatre box office.

For more information on the DocYard and its 2014 Fall Season, visit [www.thedocyard.com](http://www.thedocyard.com).

## **THE DOCYARD 2014 FALL PROGRAM**

**October 6**

***E-TEAM (2014)***

**In-person Q&A with director Ross Kauffman and Human Rights Watch representative Carroll Bogert**

Anna, Ole, Fred and Peter are four members of the Emergencies Team - or E-Team - the boots on the ground division of a respected, international human rights group. Arriving as soon as possible after allegations of human rights abuse surface, the E-Team uncovers crucial evidence to determine if further investigation is warranted and, if so, to investigate, document, and capture the world's attention.

**October 20**

***RETURN TO HOMS (2013)***

**Skype Q&A with director Talal Derki**

From 2011 to 2013, filmmaker Talal Derki followed the journey of two close friends whose lives had been upended by the battle raging in Syria. When the army cracks down and their beloved city of Homs

becomes a bombed-out ghost town, these two peaceful protesters finally take up arms and transform into rebel insurgents. With no talking heads or title cards to give us context, Derki's film is after something much more visceral.

**November 3**

***HOAX CANULAR (2013)***

**In-person Q&A with director Dominic Gagnon**

The end of the world was a hot topic online in 2012. HOAX\_CANULAR is a contemporary found-footage film that counts down the end of the world and consists of teenagers' online videos dealing with the impending end. At the same time, the film reflects on how contemporary media deal with our fears and how we deal with those media.

**November 8**

***WATCHERS OF THE SKY (2014)***

**In-person Q&A with director Edet Belzberg**

**Co-presentation with the Boston Jewish Film Festival**

Juxtaposing four stories of courage and humanity, and journeying from Nuremburg to Bosnia to Rwanda to The Hague, WATCHERS OF THE SKY chronicles the forgotten and important life of Raphael Lemkin, the Polish Jew who created the word "genocide." Inspired by Samantha Power's Pulitzer Prize-winning book, A Problem from Hell.

**November 16**

***NATIONAL GALLERY (2013)***

**In-person Q&A with director Frederick Wiseman**

**Co-presentation with the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (screening held at MFA)**

NATIONAL GALLERY takes the audience behind the scenes of a London institution, on a journey to the heart of a museum inhabited by masterpieces of Western art from the Middle Ages to the 19th Century. NATIONAL GALLERY is the portrait of a place, its way of working and relations with the world, its staff and public, and its paintings.

**November 17**

***THE NOTORIOUS MR. BOUT (2013)***

**In-person Q&A with co-directors Tony Gerber and Maxim Pozdorovkin**

Viktor Bout was a Russian entrepreneur, a war profiteer, an aviation magnate, an arms smuggler and, strangest of all, an amateur filmmaker. Until three days prior to his arrest on charges of conspiring to kill Americans, Bout kept the camera running, documenting a life spent in the gray areas of international law.

**December 1**

***WE ALWAYS LIE TO STRANGERS (2013)***

**In-person Q&A with co-director David Wilson**

A story of family, community, music and tradition in Branson, Missouri, a remote Ozark Mountain town

where crowds from around the US flock for live music with a "return to old fashioned values". Set against the backdrop of economic uncertainty and changes in attitudes on social issues, the film profiles four families who live and perform in Branson.

**December 15**

***APPROACHING THE ELEPHANT (2014)***

**In-person Q&A with director Amanda Rose Wilder**

Wilder's debut feature dives head first into the inaugural year of the Teddy McArdle Free School, where all classes are voluntary and rules are determined by vote - adults and children have an equal say. The film observes an indelible cast of outspoken young personalities as they form relationships, explore their surroundings and debate rule violations, until it all comes to a head. The film is a rare, inspired portrait of unfettered childhood.

**THE DOCYARD**

Created in 2010 by Sara Archambault, Sean Flynn and Ben Fowlie, the DocYard has quickly become one of Boston's most respected cinematic events, screening a combination of new works from emerging filmmakers and classics from some of the region's most distinguished filmmakers like Frederick Wiseman and Ross McElwee. Now in its fifth edition, the series was recently recognized with a special commendation from the Boston Society of Film Critics for "presenting a vibrant forum for the Boston documentary community to see important new non-fiction works and to have meaningful discussions with the filmmakers."

The DocYard is a program of the LEF Foundation and is supported by the Brattle Theatre, Cambridge Arts Council/Massachusetts Cultural Council, Irving House at Harvard and Rule / Boston Camera.

For more information on the DocYard, visit [www.thedocyard.com](http://www.thedocyard.com)

###