

For Immediate Release

Contact:

Ben Fowlie ben@camdenfilmfest.org | 617.817.5376

Sara Archambault sara@lef-foundation.org | 617.492.5333

***HERMAN'S HOUSE* at The DocYard
Monday, June 17, 2013 at 7pm at the Brattle Theatre**

CAMBRIDGE, MA — The DocYard, Boston's premier showcase for non-fiction film, is proud to present Angad Bhalla's documentary *Herman's House*. A look at one man's life in solitary confinement and a friendship that helps him to imagine an alternative reality outside of it, *Herman's House* is "a gorgeous, humane, and surprising piece of work" (*The Stranger*).



Post-Screening Q&A with Filmmaker Angad Bhalla, moderated by filmmaker Rebecca Richman Cohen

"A cinematic gem." - The Globe And Mail

"a shrewd indictment of solitary confinement...a protest movie without being sententious" - Dazed and Confused

"equal parts social protest, conceptual cinema and criminal-justice critique" - Variety

Synopsis: The injustice of solitary confinement and the transformative power of art are explored in ***Herman's House***, a feature documentary that follows the unlikely friendship between a New York artist and one of America's most famous inmates as they collaborate on an acclaimed art project.

In 1972, New Orleans native Herman Joshua Wallace (b. 1941) was serving a 25-year sentence for bank robbery when he was accused of murdering an Angola Prison guard and thrown into solitary confinement. Many believed him wrongfully convicted. Appeals were made but Herman remained in jail and—to increasingly widespread outrage—in solitary. Years

passed with one day much like the next. Then in 2001 Herman received a perspective-shifting letter from a Jackie Sumell, a young art student, who posed the provocative question: **“what kind of house does a man who has lived in a six-foot-by-nine-foot cell for over 30 years dream of?”**

The screening will be followed by a Q&A with director Angad Bhalla, moderated by Rebecca Richman Cohen. Rebecca Richman Cohen is an Emmy Award nominated filmmaker, a lecturer on law at Harvard Law School, and a Soros Justice Fellow.

This film will be preceded ***A Cold Freezin' Night for Doomed Lovers***, an audio short by Andrea Silenzi from the collection of the **Third Coast International Audio Festival**.

DocYard Season passes are \$50 and can be purchased online now at www.thedocyard.com. Individual tickets for each film are \$10 and can be purchased online at www.brattlefilm.org or at the Brattle box office.

**See the full program info for The DocYard's
Summer 2013 season at
www.thedocyard.com**

DocYard series sponsors include the Center for Independent Documentary, Camden International Film Festival, Irving House at Harvard, Rule Boston Camera, LEF Foundation, Cambridge Arts Council/Massachusetts Cultural Council, Modulus Studios, MassArt Continuing Education and the Open Documentary Lab at MIT.