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Struggles, Sacrifices and Triumph

Films by activists deepen awareness

The Northwest Film Center has started a thought-provoking cinema series featuring activist filmmakers from around the world.

Global Concerns: Human Rights on Film brings movies to Portland that deepen our awareness of the values of dignity, equality, and justice as the films tell universal stories of human struggle, sacrifice

The Northwest Film Center hopes that the works presented will broaden understanding and stimulate involvement as the films reveal the hardship, courage and commitment of those whose hearts and minds are focused on the many challenges confronting humanity.

The series continues through Nov. 8 at the Whitsell Auditorium

at the Portland Art Museum, 1219 S.W. Park. Individual tickets are \$7, \$6 for film center members, students and seniors.

White Light/Black Rain -Thursday, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m.

Director Steven Okazaki shows how the once unthinkable threat that nuclear weapons of mass destruction is more real and more frightening than at any time since the height of the Cold War. Even after 60 years, the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki continue to inspire argument, denial and myth. Featuring unforgettable interviews with 14 atomic bomb survivors, many of whom have never spoken publicly before, and four Americans intimately involved in the bombings, imaginable suffering and extraor-

dinary human resilience and lessons we cannot afford to forget.

Hot House, Thursday, Oct. 18 at 7 p.m.

Director Shimon Dotan's story of 9,000 Palestinians who are imprisoned in Israeli jails on "security" charges. The film offers a rare look at the experiences, motivations and mindsets of a number of key

inmates-men and women, shattering the twodimensional stereotypes presented by the mainstream media on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Cocalero, Sunday, Oct. 21 at 5 p.m.

Director Alejando Landes' film tackles controversial Bolivian president Evo Morales and his rise to prominence. The story follows the presidential campaign of Morales, an outspoken critic of the United States whose political power base is in the coca-growing areas of central Bolivia, as he moves from union meetings in the Andes and Amazon to formal fundraising dinners and mass rallies in cities.

Enemies of Happiness, Thursday, Oct. 25 at 8:15 p.m.

Afghanistan's most famous and infamous women in 2003 when she subtitles.

Marco Williams

challenged the power of warlords in the country's new government. Enemies of Happiness will be preceded by the short film "Sari's Mother," director James Longley's story of a courageous Iraqi mother who struggles to get medical help for her 10-year-old son, Sari, who is dying

Banished, Thursday, Nov. 1 at 7 p.m.

In towns throughout the United States, in the years between the Civil War and the Great Depression, thousands of African American families were violently driven from their land by their white neighbors. The choice was simply get out or die. More than a century later these towns remain all white. Filmmaker Marco Williams brings this shameful legacy to light, as he investigates three such towns, addressing questions of racism, truth



Okazaki's film reveals both un- "Banished" tells the story African-American families displaced by ethnic cleansing.

and reparations. Williams leaves it to the viewers-and the American people as a nation-to come up with answers that respond to this overwhelming American tragedy.

Election Day, Sunday, Nov. 7 at 7 p.m.

Director Katy Chevigny's film follows an eclectic group of voters on

Election Day 2004. Capturing people from all walks of life, the film presents a glimpse of the real-life stories that lie underneath the complex electoral process. As these stories intertwine, an intimate portrait of the American democratic process emerges that is rich with both humor and unsettling revelation.

Lumo, Thursday, Nov. 8 at 7 p.m.

The agonies of war-torn Africa are deeply etched in the bodies of women in this film by co-directors Bent-Jorgen Perlmutt, Nelson Walker Iii, Louis Abelman and Lynn True . In eastern

Congo, vying militias, armies and bandits use rape as a weapon of Directors Eva Mulvad and Anja Al-Erhayem's film about personal terror. Lumo proves that the solidarity of women can bind even the courage and conviction, centers on Malalai Joya, who became one of most irreparable of wounds. In Swahilli and French with English