



amnesty international group 60

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amnesty international group 60 2004

Opening Night

IMAGINE

year: 2002

by: Amnesty International USA

country: USA/South Africa/Thailand/Kenya/Northern Ireland/Croatia

running time: 4'26"

March 15, 2004 | 7.40 pml Memorial University Lecture Hall, EN 2006 | St.John's

When John Lennon wrote the song "Imagine" in 1971, thousands of prisoners of conscience were imprisoned around the world; the war in Vietnam was still raging, torture and disappearance were reaching epidemic proportions in many Latin American, African and Asian countries.

In a world post-September 11, standing up for human rights has become increasingly more difficult. Indeed, the "War on Terror" is in direct conflict with our responsibility to protect human rights.

To counter this situation, Amnesty International had to come up with a strategy, a way to fight back. Yoko immediately agreed when one of the makers of "Imagine" asked her if they could make this idea a reality. In doing this, Yoko Ono believed that if children delivered the message of peace and human rights, not only wo they become educated and inspired themselves, but even the adults would have to listen. "Imagine" was shown in over 50 countries in less than two years. For more information on the Imagine campaign, click on "The Imagine Campaign" in the LINKS section.



SOMEONE WILL FIND THEM

year: 2003

by: Canadian Landmine Foundation

country: Canada

running time: 30"

March 15, 2004 | 7.43 pml Memorial University Lecture Hall, EN 2006 | St.John's

"Someone Will Find Them" is a promotional clip by the Canadian Landmine Foundation. In its essence, it is effective in showing the continued need for funding of agencies working overseas in demining mined fields. The cuts in Canada's contribution to humanitarian programs has affected the field of demining and the clip does its best to show how essential funding those groups/organizations is. We admired the graphic work and the message that the clip carries. For more information on the YMAAP (Youth Mine Action Ambassador Program), please visit the LINKS section of the website.

HOW LANDMINES HAVE DESTROYED MY LIFE

year: 2003

by: ICRC

country: Canada

running time: 2'00

March 15, 2004 | 7.45 pml Memorial University Lecture Hall, EN 2006 | St.John's

Through the narration of a little boy, "How Landmines Have Destroyed My Life" exposes the sad reality of many children caught in conflicts. The short animation sadly, but effectively shows pictures drawn by children around the world who have seen horrors many of us would have hard time imagining. Part of an ICRC campaign, "How Landmines Have Destroyed My Life" is moving and touching.

OUR ROAD TO KOSOVO

year: 2002

by: James Saldana

country: Albania/Kosovo/USA

running time: 26'

CANADIAN PREMIERE

March 15, 2004 | 7.50 pm | Memorial University Lecture Hall, EN 2006 | St.John's



The Angelis Awards Documentary Finalist "Road to Kosovo" was traveled by six college students in this digital documentary chronicling two years of the refugee crisis during the 1999/2000 Kosovar conflict. From mainly a Kosovar Albanian standpoint we learn about life in a refugee camp and the process of reclamation that the refugees must go through, when they find out that their once familiar society has become only livable under constant military supervision. Throughout the documentary, these young American students discover that the Kosovars have become foreigners in their own land. Documented at a very human level, the crisis hits home with its viewers. To see the website of the filmmakers and find about the awards the documentary has received and been nominated for, or to order a copy of "Our Road to Kosovo", please visit the LINKS section of the website.

KOSOVO/A

year: 2003

by: Jody Barrett / Maria Mok / Maasja Ooms

country: Netherlands

running time: 60'

CANADIAN PREMIERE

March 15, 2004 | 8.20 pml Memorial University Lecture Hall, EN 2006 | St.John's

A bridge that divides the city of Mitrovica in half has separated the Albanian majority from the Serbian minority since 1999. Through narratives of four characters we get to meet and experience post-war Kosovo from their camera focus. The Albanian and Serb youth who talk in this story tell of the effect war has had on their lives. They take us to their homes and show us what their lives are like now. The music in the documentary helps us see these youth in the realistic light, something that "Kosovo/a" crew succeeded in exposing successfully. The film is important to see for many reasons, but

one that stood out for us was the ability of the filmmakers of this film to expose the reality of life in a post-war country and the persistence of problems, as well as a hope that someday, generations will change those. Kosovo/a has been shown in numerous film festivals around the world.

Second Night

THE MISSING: END THE SILENCE

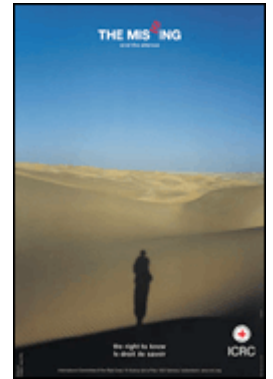
year: 2003

by: ICRC (see website in LINKS section)

country: Geneva

running time: 14'

March 16, 2004 | 7.40 pm | Memorial University Lecture Hall, EN 2006 | St.John's



Through a series of emotive testimonials, "The Missing: End the Silence" explores the tragedy of people who remain unaccounted for as a result of armed conflict or internal violence and the anguish that this causes to their families. Intended to heighten awareness on the issues of The Missing, it also encourages action to be taken to resolve these problems and to guarantee the fundamental right of the families involved to know the fate of a missing relative. For more information on the Canadian Red Cross and the International Committee of Red Cross and Red Crescent, please visit click on LINKS.

ANONYMOUSLY YOURS

year: 2003

by: Gayle Ferraro

country: Burma/USA

running time: 87'

NEWFOUNDLAND PREMIERE

March 16, 2004 | 8 pm | Memorial University Lecture Hall, EN 2006 | St.John's

Sex trafficking enslaves as many as 40 million women and girls worldwide. This daring exposé, filmed with great risk in the military dictatorship of Myanmar, tells the stories of four Burmese prostitutes and their struggle to rebuild their lives. From the back rooms of teashops to five-star hotels, the Far East sex trade thrives on the routine merchandising of women for the sexual pleasure of men from all cultures. Widespread poverty, corruption, and human need are all behind the rise of the fastest growing industry on earth. In a region of massive unemployment and chronic poverty, the brothels, however brutal, provide a source of needed income. Girls as young as eight are sold into the sex trade, sometimes by their own families. The picture this film paints is not black and white, but the end result – the tragic and seemingly endless exploitation of women for pleasure – is all too clear.



SUSPINO: A CRY FOR ROMA

year: 2003

by: Gillian Darling Kovanic

country: Canada

running time: 72'

NEWFOUNDLAND PREMIERE

March 16, 2004 | 9.30 pm | Memorial University Lecture Hall, EN 2006 | St.John's

Suspino takes an unflinching look at the persecution that plagues the Roma (Gypsies), Europe's largest and most vilified minority. Since 1989, Roma have become scapegoats for Eastern Europe's nascent democracies. Because of racism, tens of thousands are fleeing their countries. The film focuses on Romania where Roma are considered 'public enemies' and Italy where Roma, classified as 'nomads', are relegated to living in camps and denied human rights.



VICTIMS OF WAR:IMAGINE

year: 1999

by: ICRC

country: Switzerland

running time: 3'10"

March 16, 2004 | 10.45 pm | Memorial University Lecture Hall, EN 2006 | St.John's

Showing all of the major events in the last century, "Victims of War:Imagine" is an inspirational short, due to both the song that accompanies these images of the 20th century, Imagine by John Lennong, but also due to the touching image sequence that follows the music. "Victims of War: Imagine" will make you think about the events happening today.