

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT

Krissy Bailey, ITVS

415-356-8383, ext. 254

krissy bailey@itvs.org

For more information about the series, visit www.itvs.org/series/global-voices

ITVS AND THE WORLD CHANNEL ANNOUNCE THE 4TH SEASON OF THE INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY SERIES GLOBAL VOICES

Series Provides a Global Perspective into the Lives of People Around the World

New season premieres Sunday, May 1 at 10 PM exclusively on the WORLD channel

(San Francisco, CA, April 22, 2011)—Today, the Independent Television Service (ITVS) announced the lineup for the fourth season of Global Voices, the international documentary television series on the WORLD channel. The first original, 26-week series to launch on WORLD, *Global Voices* presents a unique lineup of programming that introduces U.S. audiences to their global neighbors in unexpected ways, opening a window into unfamiliar lives, experiences, and perspectives from around the world. Beginning Sunday, May 1 at 10 PM, *Global Voices* will present the U.S. premieres of four documentaries funded by ITVS International, as well as encore presentations of acclaimed programs previously seen on cable partners such as HBO, Sundance, and the Documentary Channel. In addition to the exclusive WORLD broadcast, most episodes will be available for viewing online post broadcast on the PBS Video player at video.pbs.org. A comprehensive overview of the 2011 series and a calendar of online events may be found on the WORLD channel's website: WORLDcompass.org.

Each *Global Voices* episode spans the globe and offers rare insights into the lives of people in countries as far away as Egypt, Japan, Belarus, Cuba, Liberia, and Brazil, providing a global perspective and diverse viewpoints about the world community. The season opens May 1 with the timely rebroadcast of *Shayfeen.com: We're Watching You*, by Sherief Elkatsha, an intimate look at the 2005 multiparty elections in Egypt through the eyes of three women working to ensure the election's legitimacy.

Four documentaries will have their broadcast premieres this season on *Global Voices*, including *Cowboys In India* by Simon Chambers. Aided by two locals, Chambers goes to the poorest area in India, where a tribe is fighting to save a sacred mountain from multinational mining moguls who say its resources will bring prosperity to the people.

--More--



An entirely new compilation of *Victory is Your Duty*, Andrew Lang's newly dubbed *Sons of Cuba* will also premiere this season. The film gives viewers an in-depth look inside the Havana Boxing Academy, where, from the tender age of nine, boys live and train at the academy with a single purpose: to bring home Olympic gold.

Patrick Reed's *The Team* takes place in the wake of Kenya's 2007 election-related violence, as Kenyans scramble to produce a dramatic TV soap opera series about a fictional soccer team, hoping taboo storylines can bridge deep ethnic divisions.

Rounding out the season's premiere episodes is Justin Webster's *Last White Man Standing*. The film follows the ongoing case of Tom Cholmondeley — heir to the largest white-owned estate in Kenya, a man who stands accused of murdering a black poacher on his land — and gives an in-depth look at the trial and its sociopolitical context.

In addition to the four programs making their U.S. broadcast premiere, season highlights include Jean Pierre Limosin's *Young Yakuza*, an intimate look at the Japanese Mafia's latest son; *New Year Baby*, chronicling filmmaker Socheata Poeuv's journey to Cambodia in search of the long buried history of her family's survival of the Khmer Rouge genocide; *Cuba, An African Odyssey*, Jihan El Tahri's exploration into the previously untold story of Cuba's support for African revolutions; Elise West and Bentley Dean's *The Siege*, a powerful documentary about the infamous 1996 siege in Lima, when the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA) stormed a party at the Japanese Ambassador's residence, took hundreds of hostages, and demanded the release of MRTA members from prison; *Be Like Others*, Tanaz Eshaghian's intimate and unflinching look at life in Iran through the eyes of young men and women choosing to undergo sex change surgery; and, *Companeras* a documentary profiling America's first all-female mariachi band, Mariachi Reyna de Los Angeles.

In addition to the exclusive broadcast of the *Global Voices* season, the WORLD channel will be providing in-depth information about each episode and related events through a variety of online platforms at <u>WORLDcompass.org</u>. Including a mix of online discussions, commentary, and opportunities for viewers to participate in live chats, the events are designed to extend engagement beyond broadcast. For an overview of these opportunities and a full schedule, viewers should visit <u>www.WORLDcompass.org</u>.

For more information about ITVS International, visit www.itvs.org/international

ABOUT GLOBAL VOICES

Produced by ITVS International, *Global Voices* is a 26-week series bringing internationally themed documentaries made by U.S.-based and international filmmakers to a national audience. This season, the series will feature the U.S. premieres of four documentaries funded by ITVS International, as well as encore broadcasts of other acclaimed ITVS programs. In addition to the WORLD broadcast, select episodes will be available online post broadcast — via iTunes, Amazon, Netflix, and on PBS's Video player through http://video.pbs.org. For the complete lineup and schedule, visit www.itvs.org/series/global-voices.

ABOUT WORLD

The WORLD public media service includes the WORLD Channel, a 24/7 public television channel dedicated to delivering the best of public television's nonfiction, news and documentary programming, and a growing schedule of content from independent producers. The WORLD channel's website, WORLD compass.org, expands on broadcast themes and fuels content across social media, providing opportunities for broad and diverse audience interaction. WORLD is produced and distributed by WGBH Boston, WNET New York Public Media, and American Public Television (APT) in association with the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) and the National Educational Telecommunications Association (NETA). The WORLD channel is available in markets representing more than 44 percent of US TV households. Funding for WORLD is provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB).

###