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2011 marks our 42nd year as a producer, distributor and sponsor of some of the most unique documentary films about people and culture available today. We have invested in our original collections so that classic films shot 60 or more years ago in 16mm are still accessible on DVD or streaming video via the web.

In addition to The Odyssey Series, for the first time on DVD is the film work of Richard Broadman, an uncompromising, independent filmmaker whose work has shed light on important political and social issues for more than three decades. Broadman died at the age of 53 in January 2000. His work has found an appropriate home here alongside that of two other prominent film pioneers recently added to DER’s collection: George Stoney and Jorge Prelorán.

DER’s approach to distribution continues to provide opportunities for in-depth research not only into the subject matter of our films, but into the very art and act of filmmaking and documentation. Even films that stir controversy open up exciting possibilities for self-examination and change. Secrets of the Tribe, Brazilian filmmaker José Padilha’s disturbing look at the nature and practice of anthropology is just such a film and we look forward to the discussions it will generate in the academic community.

DER continues to present provocative films that we hope will provide some answers but will also ask new questions to be addressed by future generations.

CYNTHIA CLOSE
Executive Director
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*ANTHROPOLOGY & SOCIOLOGY ARE NOT INCLUDED, AS MOST OF OUR TITLES FALL UNDER THESE CATEGORIES.

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* Unter diesen Kategorien sind Anthropologie und Soziologie nicht enthalten, da die meisten unserer Titel unter diese Kategorien fallen.*
RETURN TO THE LAND OF SOULS

In the southeast Ivory Coast, some Akan communities still make contact with their ancestral spirits through priests who become possessed by the spirits of the Forest and the Waters. A writer from the Ivory Coast, Jean Marie Addai (1941-1999), fought to conserve their rich oral literature, myths and legends, as well as their knowledge and uses of the plants. In this stunning film, one of her disciples attends the initiation rites of those chosen by the spirits and witnesses one of them proclaimed as the new Komian or high animistic priest.

Jordi Esteva
color, 50 min, 2010
$195 $39.95

MOVENT
(RE)EVOLUTION AFRICA

In an astonishing exposition of choreographic creations, nine African choreographers tell story of the emerging art form of Contemporary African Dance. Stunning choreography and riveting critiques challenge stale stereotypes of “traditional Africa” to unveil soul-shaking responses to the beauty and tragedy of 21st century Africa.

Joan Frosch, Alla Kugan
color, 65 min, 2007
$225 $49.95

THEY TURNED OUR DESERT INTO FIRE

In July of 2005, Mark Brecke was invited to Capitol Hill to give a presentation of his work in Darfur to members of Congress. The train trip from San Francisco presented an opportunity to raise awareness about the crisis. Complementing his photographs of human suffering in Darfur and the refugee camps of Chad are moving accounts of Mark’s experiences and comprehensive expert analysis, which illuminate the full dimensions of the crisis and raise serious questions about the world’s apparent indifference.

Mark Brecke
color, 88 min 2008
$195 $49.95

THE AL-HADJI AND HIS WIVES

A portrait of a Fulani patriarch, his savvy wives, and their rebellious daughters, this documentary provides a glimpse into the challenges of their everyday lives and into their religious and political convictions. With a critical but sympathetic gaze, it also chronicles and investigates the process and rationale by which Amina, a 16-year-old daughter of the family, is forced into an unwanted marriage.

Jie Li
color, 50 min, 2006
$195 $49.95

DVD PRICING KEY

Institional Sale - includes public performance rights.
Consumer Sale - for home use only.
AN AFRICAN BRASS BAND
At the beginning of the 20th century in Jacqueville, Côte d’Ivoire, traditional music was forbidden by the missionaries. But the inhabitants’ enjoyment of their local festivals proved stronger, and the little town developed its own dancing brass band.

Hugo Zemp
color, 73 min, 2006
$195  $49.95

MASTERS OF THE BALAFON SERIES
Emblematic of the Senufo people of the Côte d’Ivoire, the Balafon is a xylophone with calabash resonators. Ethnomusicologist Hugo Zemp documents all aspects this vital instrument plays throughout their lives in this detailed series.

FUNERAL FESTIVITIES
Balafon orchestras play in five villages during celebrations that include the most important rites, ceremonies and rejoicings in the life of the Senufo.
color, 80 min + extras, 2001
$195  $49.95

THE JOY OF YOUTH
Senufo musicians and non-musicians, young and old, talk about the occasions for which the balafon marks the rhythms of life for this agricultural people.
color, 70 min + extras, 2002
$195  $39.95

THE WOOD AND THE CALABASH
Each step in the manufacture of the balafon is shown, from the prayer before felling a tree to the fixing of the buzzing membranes, which give this instrument its characteristic timbre.
color, 47 min, 2002
$195  $39.95

Siaka Diabaté is a multi-talented professional musician, and for the local festivals in Bouaké plays five instruments: the Senufo and Maninka balafons, the kora harp, the dundun drum and the electric guitar.

Hugo Zemp
color, 79 min, 2005
$195  $49.95

SIKA, AN AFRICAN MUSICIAN

!KUNG SHORT FILMS COMPILATION
Between 1950–1958, John Marshall made four expeditions to film the Ju’/hoansi (a group of !Kung Bushmen) of the Nyae Nyae region of Namibia (then South West Africa). Marshall and his family, who together undertook an extensive multi-disciplinary study of Ju’/hoansi, spent the greatest amount of time with the people of Gaupta, including Oma, Ut Tsamko, Nai, and Gunda. During this time, Marshall shot over 300,000 feet of 16mm film (157 hours). He later produced a total of 23 films exclusively from this footage. 15 of those are short films that Marshall referred to as “sequence films.” Each focuses on a single event, providing the viewer a brief introduction followed by an uninterrupted sequence.

John Marshall
color, b&w, 161 min, 2009, $395  $89.95


DISC TWO: PLAYING WITH SCORPIONS (4:28) A RITE OF PASSAGE (14:44) DEBUT TANTRUM (8:22) THE WASP NEST (12:47) THE MEAT FIGHT (14:12) BADAB PLAY (7:54)
**Asia**

**40 YEARS OF SILENCE: AN INDONESIAN TRAGEDY**

In 1965, General Suharto’s purge of suspected Communists in 1965 resulted in 500,000 deaths. In the first documentary to explore the personal effects of the killings, four Indonesian families narrate their struggles with survival, their feelings of hatred and revenge, and ultimately their journeys to reconciliation and redemption. As they break their silence publicly for the first time, each family provides an intimate and frightening look at what it was like for survivors and reflects upon the stigmatization they continue to endure.

*Alan Klima*

color, 67 min, 2009

$195  $39.95

“...glimmers with a rare blend of mystery and humanity.”

— KEVIN LAMISON, SAN FRANCISCO BAY GUARDIAN

**TREASURE OF THE LISU**

Ah-Cheng is the only person in his Tibetan village who still makes the Chiben, a four-string lute – one of the most important objects to the Lisu People. Through intimate access to the daily life of three generations in his family, this short film shows, with compassion and humor, the effect of modernization and its implications on ethnic traditions, community and family life.

*Jayasinha Jhala*

color, 73 min, 2010

$195  $39.95

**DRUMS ON THE RED RIVER**

Once a year in Yen Vinh, Hung Yen Province a grand three-day festival is held to worship the god Chu Dong Tu and his two wives. Three area villages converge on the main temple complex to participate in the ritual offerings, folk games, ca tru singing, and other events. The video documents the festival of 2007, a result of the widespread revival of traditional folk festivals that has followed reform in Vietnam.

*Jayasinha Jhala*

color, 73 min, 2010

$195  $39.95

**GHOSTS AND NUMBERS**

Set in the aftermath of Thailand’s devastating financial crash, the film is a fantastic meditation on Thai encounters with the spirit world and the world of numbers, as they intersect in unexpected ways. It is a dream-like journey through Bangkok streets where displaced farmers sell lottery tickets, and lottery enthusiasts consult fortune tellers and communicate with spirits. Ghosts in many forms haunt Thailand’s past and present among half-constructed buildings and other ruins of globalization.

*Robert Lemelson*

color, 86 min, 2009, $195  $49.95
TWO VIDEO REPORTS FROM CHINA:
ACUPUNCTURE AND HERBAL MEDICINE

In 1977, twenty-three American family planning workers from the fields of medicine, public health, media and administration studied birth control, maternity and child care methods and facilities in China. This DVD contains two video reports made during the trip: In China Family Planning is No Private Matter (32 min), and Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine (22 min).

In addition to documenting the extensive use of herbal therapy and acupuncture, they inquire about the government’s methods of surveillance that were instrumental in conducting the declared policy of “one child per family” and observe its consequences in factories and communes.

Nina Sabnani
color, 12 min, 2010, $95  19.95

A MODEL FOR CONSERVATION

Operation Wallacea is a group of scientists who have established alternative conservation strategies in biodiversity hotspots such as the Island of Buton, Indonesia. Their methods involve helping the local people develop strategies to earn income without harming the delicate ecology. The video also features footage of newly-discovered bird, insect and animal species in their natural habitats.

Anne Zeller
color, 18 min, 2010
$145  29.95

THE RISING WAVE

A synthesis of eastern and western traditions, Caodaism emerged in Saigon in the 1920s and was soon a major religion in Vietnam. Though Caodaists attempted to heal the wounds of war and colonialism, they suffered continual persecution. In this study of a largely unknown mystical tradition, Caodaists tell their stories of exile, anti-colonial struggle and building immigrant congregations in California.

Janet Hoskins, Susan Hostkins
color, 50 min, 2008
$195  49.95

THE LEFT EYE OF GOD

Presenting Indian cultures who have shared and managed water resources in ways unchanged for centuries, the film focuses on those who have relied on their local natural water for fishing and farming for generations. In the rapidly transforming economy of India, corporations now control and determine access to this natural resource. A complex picture emerges between the two divergent views: water as a billion-dollar industry versus water as a sacred gift for all humankind.

Shweta Kishore & Yash Desai
color, 86 min, 2010
$195  49.95

THE STITCHES SPEAK

This delightful animated short shares the stories of individual Kutch artisans who formed the Kala Raksha Trust and School for Design in India. The film adds another dimension to their narrative art of appliqués and embroideries through which they articulate their responses to life events as traumatic as the earthquake and as joyful as flying a kite. Through conversations and memories four voices detail the evolution of a craft tradition.

Nina Sabnani
color, 12 min, 2010, $95  19.95

Asia
RETURNED: CHILD SOLDIERS OF NEPAL’S MAOIST ARMY

Shangri-La to hell in ten years: how did Nepal, a peaceful country, become home to the most dramatic Maoist insurgency in modern history?

Former Nepali child soldiers describe their dramatic recruitment and participation in the Maoist People’s Liberation Army during their eleven-year war with the Hindu monarch of Nepal. With the major conflict ended and the Maoists in control of the government, these children are now discarded by the Maoist leadership and forced to return home to communities and families that want nothing to do with them. For many of the children of Nepal’s Maoist Army, the return home can be even more painful than the experience of war. Talking to these children as they attempt to rebuild their lives, the film explains why they joined the Maoists and explores the prevention of future recruitment.

Robert Koenig
color, 30 min 2008, $145 $39.95
Longer version now available: 57 min $195 $49.95

SONGS OF A SORROWFUL MAN

Charismatic and unconventional, Dukhushyam is a painter, composer, and singer who is legendary in rural West Bengal. As documented in Singing Pictures (2006), he encourages Indian women to take up the craft of scroll painting and musical composition traditionally pursued by men. This new film chronicles his vision of the decline and rebirth of his art; his tolerant Sufi Muslim spirituality; his engagement with Hindus, Muslims and the modern world; his encyclopedic knowledge of music and painting; and his teachings for future generations of painters and singers in his community.

Lina Fruzetti, Ákos Östör,
Aditina Nath Sarkar
color, 35 min, 2009
$145 $39.95

SPEAKING TREE

For over five years, the filmmaker follows the unusual story of man named Deva who loses his mind while grazing camels in the desert of northwestern India. After his wife leaves, his mother looks after him, and he spends each day tied to a tree in the village. Ten years later, a massive earthquake kills thousands and makes millions homeless but gives Deva his mind, his sanity, and his life back. Much has changed, and for Deva, today’s reality may just be a different kind of “insanity,” yet one which he can decide whether or not to accept.

Natasha de Betak
color, 65 min, 2008
$195 $49.95

YINDABAD

The Narmada Valley Development Project currently underway in India involves the construction of more than 3000 dams. Over 2.5 million people have already been affected, most of them indigenous Adivasis who have been struggling against the interests of the government and large corporations for over 20 years. Fighting for the conservation of their culture and their land, women are the central characters in this critical study of the hidden socio-ecological impact of economic development and globalization.

Mariano Agudo, Rol Gultian
color, 55 min, 2007
$195 $49.95

THE SONG OF HARMONICS

In overtone (or bi-phononic) singing, best known in Mongolia and among the Tuva people of Southern Siberia, a single person sings what the audience perceives as two voices at once: a low pitch with his vocal cords and a high-pitched melody using harmonics selected by modifying the volume of the mouth cavity. Shooting x-ray pictures of tongue movements and the spectral views of overtones, the filmmaker and researchers discover how this unique vocal technique operates.

Hugo Zemp
color, 38 min, 1990, $145 $29.95
JULIETTE OF THE HERBS

An inspiring tale of a remarkable healer, this lyrical portrait chronicles the life of Juliette de Bairacli Levy: world-renowned herbalist, author, breeder of Afghan hounds, friend of the Gypsies, traveler in search of herbal wisdom and pioneer of holistic veterinary medicine. For over 60 years she lived with the nomads and peasants of the world, learning the healing arts from people close to nature. Her classic herbals for animals and for children have been a vital inspiration for the present-day herbal renaissance.

Tish Streeten
color, 75 min, 1998. $195 $49.95

“It is a film that expresses in a profound way the essence of what it means to be an herbalist and earth steward.”

— SHATOYA DE LA TOUR, HERBALIST, DRY CREEK HERB FARM AND LEARNING CENTER, CALIFORNIA

HOW THE MYTH WAS MADE

George Stoney’s grandfather was the doctor on the island in Ireland where the legendary maker of documentary film, Robert Flaherty, shot his 1934 film Man of Aran. So Stoney’s film, exploring the effects Flaherty’s film had on the Aran island and its people, digs into his own roots while it studies the work of his intellectual mentor. Stoney says, “How the Myth Was Made illustrates what I believe to be a common truth: the filmmaker always leaves his mark on the places and the people he films.”

George C. Stoney
color, 58 min, 1979
$195 $49.95

BREAKING THE CYCLE

By placing the students’ emotional well-being first, a visionary schoolmaster transformed Woodlands County Primary School in Gillingham, Kent from a neglected, underachieving institution into one of the best schools in the UK.

John Dickinson, Mark Dickinson
color, 52 min, 2008
$195 $49.95

IMAGINE A SCHOOL... SUMMERHILL

At Summerhill, the famous alternative boarding school, attendance in classes is voluntary, and children can play all day if they feel like it. The staff and students must take on the British Labor Government to fight for the alternative boarding school’s existence – proving the very educational principals on which the school was founded.

William Tyler Smith
color, 67 min, 2008
$195 $49.95

THE AUSCHWITZ DIALOGUES

Everyone has heard of the concentration and extermination camps at Auschwitz, but not many recognize the small Polish town by its present name Oświęcim. Arriving at this site, a team of young filmmakers find themselves caught amid a conflict between Jewish Holocaust survivors and the town’s Polish inhabitants, who struggle to define the town’s modern day identity.

Marian Ehret
color, 60 min, 2007
$145 $39.95
COFFEE FUTURES
Coffee Futures weaves together the Turkish custom of coffee fortune-telling with Turkey’s decades-long attempt to join the European Union, revealing the textures of a society whose fate has long been nationally and internationally debated. It investigates the collective psychology of anticipating an uncertain national future.

Zeynep Devrim Gürsel
color, 22 min, 2009
$145 $29.95

…a delightful, engaging and brilliant short film about Turkey’s ambivalent relationship with the European Union…”
—MELANIE CAMMETT, BROWN UNIVERSITY

FUNERAL CHANTS FROM THE GEORGIAN CAUCASUS
The Svan people represent about 1% of the Georgian population and have a unique language and religion, yet the polyphony of the Svan is one of the major styles of Georgian vocal art. In their funeral rituals, they combine three vocal expressions rarely found now: women’s individual laments punctuated by collective wails, men’s individual laments, and polyphonic chants by male choirs. These collective chants of great intensity manage to convey the inexpressible grief of those faced with death.

Hugo Zemp
color, 21 min, 2007, $145 $39.95

THE FEAST-DAY OF TAMAR AND LASHARI
The Pshavi people of Georgia perform an annual ritual combining ancient polytheistic beliefs and Orthodox Christian faith. Celebrating Queen Tamar (12-13th Century) and her son Lasha, pilgrims meet for three days at sanctuaries consecrated to these deities and worship them through prayers, songs and sacrifices. The uniqueness of this “pagan” ritual is exemplified in their songs: centuries-old songs with music traditional and modern, rural and urban, oriental and occidental.

Study guide available

Hugo Zemp
color, 73 min, 1998, $195 $49.95

POLYPHONY OF CERIANA: THE COMPAGNIA SACCO
In Ceriana, a village in West Liguria on the southern slopes of the Italian Alps descending to the Mediterranean coast, people love to sing. The most committed to preserve the traditional drone polyphony of the region, the Compagnia Sacco choir do not sing under the direction of a conductor and do not limit themselves to giving concerts internationally and producing CDs; they still nurture the tradition of singing together with friends at local festivities.

Hugo Zemp
color, 70 min, 2010, $145 $39.95
COLLECTED FILMS OF JORGE PRELORÁN

A cinematic icon in his native Argentina, Jorge Prelorán was a pioneer in the field of ethnographic documentary film and a professor emeritus at UCLA. He is best known for his intimate approach to ethnographic film, a style he termed “ethnobiography.” In many of his films, Prelorán's protagonists tell their personal stories in their own words, while revealing the story of their communities and cultures. During his lifetime, Prelorán collaborated with a wide variety of anthropologists, writers, musicians, filmmakers and others, both in Argentina and the United States. He produced and directed more than fifty films and has credits on many other fiction and non-fiction films. He passed away last year at the age of 75.

SECRETS OF THE TRIBE

Anthropology goes under the magnifying glass in this investigation of the seminal research on Yanomamo Indians. In the 1960s and ’70s, anthropologists filed into the Amazon Basin to observe this “virgin” society. Thirty years later, the events surrounding this infiltration have become a scandalous tale of academic ethics and infighting. Heated disputes on the origins of violence and war and the accuracy of data gathering descend into allegations of sexual and medical violation. Allowing professors accused of heinous activities to defend themselves, and the Yanomamo to present their side of the story, this riveting excavation deconstructs anthropology’s colonial legacy and challenges our society’s myths of objectivity and the very notion of “the other.”

José Padilha
color, 94 min, 2010, $295

IMAGINERO

Hermogenes Cayo is a self-taught woodcarver and painter who lives on the high, cold Andean plateau of Argentina. Devout, austere and dedicated to craftsmanship, he can make anything from religious figures to a working harmonium. Observed during times both festive and ordinary, Hermogenes and his family live much as their ancestors have always done, raising sheep and weaving cloth, but a train now makes the rest of the world closer; “the children play differently now that they have been to town,” he notes.

Jorge Prelorán
color, 53 min, 1970, $195 $39.95
“...complex, shattering...”
—KENNETH TURAN, LA TIMES

“...deft and outrageous...”
—PETER KEOUGH, BOSTON PHOENIX

“While there is plenty to be appalled about here, Secrets of the Tribe is actually quite funny, insightful and entertaining. The egos, the inconsistencies and the battle of the minds keep the narrative moving forward at superb speed, raising questions about motive, opportunity and objectivity along the way.”
—JOHN ESTRER, MOVING PICTURES MAGAZINE

ZULAY, FACING THE 21ST CENTURY
Filmed over a span of 8 years, the film is based on a dialogue between Zulay Saravino, an indigenous Otavaleña of Equator, and Mabel Preloran, an Argentine anthropologist living in Los Angeles, on the feelings and problems that both women suffered while adapting to the country to which they emigrated. A universal document on transculturation and the decisions that are faced on identity, education, economic advancement and emotional ties.

Jorge Prelorán, Mabel Prelorán, Zulay Saravino
color, 110 min, 1992, $195 $39.95

COCHENGO MIRANDA
The reveries, pains and pleasures of a family in the Western Pampas of Argentina are revealed during a time of great change. Cochengo, a folk singer in his youth, now raises cattle in this remote land where the elders speak of the importance and value of traditions, and the young adapt to a life marked by modernization—most of them leaving to gain a better education in the cities. The result is a warm, intimate portrait told by the settlers themselves.

Jorge Prelorán
color, 53 min, 1974, $195 $39.95
BIRDS OF PASSAGE
Two young Uruguayan songwriters leave behind their respective hometowns on the borders of Brazil and Argentina, and move to the capital to fulfill their dreams of recording albums. The film fuses the arts of documentary film and music, interweaving the songs and stories of these struggling composers. With vérité cinematography and an unforgettable soundtrack, Birds of Passage explores the challenges of being a young artist, and the art of searching, inside and outside of oneself.

Rachel Learns
color, 52 min, 2009, $195 $39.95

INSTITUTO DE CINE Y AUDIOVISUAL DE URUGUAY (ICAU) AWARD, 2009
PROGRAMA MONTEVIDEO SOCIO-AUDIOVISUAL AWARD, 2009
ATLANTICOD INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL, ATLÁNTIDA, URUGUAY, 2009
OJOS DE MUJER FILM FESTIVAL, MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY, 2009

A PLACE CALLED LOS PEREYRA
In the impoverished and isolated region of Northern Argentina known as “El Impenetrable,” children eagerly await a visit from their “Godmothers”—a charity mission from Buenos Aires. When they arrive, life in Los Pereyra changes completely. Both delighted and bewildered, the children learn many things from their cosmopolitan visitors, including a glimpse of privileged life and perhaps, a realization of their own poverty. Subtle, sweet, and humorous, the film examines adolescence, charity and the intersection of these two worlds.

Andrés Livov-Macklin
color, 82 min, 2009, $195 $39.95

RENCONTRES INTERNATIONALES DU DOCUMENTAIRE DE MONTREAL, 2009
INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FESTIVAL OF AMSTERDAM, 2009
RENDEZ-VOUS DU CINEMA QUÉBÉCOIS, 2010

LIVING AT RISK
Subtitled The Story of a Nicaraguan Family, this film centers on the Barrios, five brothers and sisters living in Sandinista Nicaragua after the overthrow of dictator Anastasio Somoza, who have committed to remaining and working with the revolutionary government.

Alfred Guzzetti, Susan Meiselas & Richard P. Rogers
color, 59 min, 1985 $195 $49.95

FILM FORUM, NEW YORK
RED RIBBON, AMERICAN FILM FESTIVAL VANCOUVER FILM FESTIVAL FESTIVAL DEI POPOLI, FLORENCE, ITALY MELBOURNE FILM FESTIVAL CINÉMA DU RÉEL, CENTRE GEORGES POMPIDOU, PARIS
TYNESEIDE FILM FESTIVAL, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, ENGLAND

OWNERS OF THE WATER: CONFLICT & COLLABORATION OVER RIVERS
A unique, long collaboration between two indigenous filmmakers and an anthropologist, Owners of the Water is a compelling documentary with ground-breaking ethnographic imagery. A central Brazilian Xavante, a Wayuu from Venezuela, and a US anthropologist explore an indigenous campaign to protect a river from devastating effects of uncontrolled Amazonian soy cultivation. Featuring a diversity of Xavante opinions, the film showcases indigenous efforts to build networks among different native peoples and across nations.

Laura R. Graham, David Hernández
Palmar & Caimi Waiásse
color, 55 min, 2009 $195 $49.95

POTO MITAN: HAITIAN WOMEN, PILLARS OF THE GLOBAL ECONOMY
Told through the compelling lives of five courageous Haitian women workers, Poto Mitan gives the global economy a human face. Each woman’s personal story explains how neoliberal globalization is gendered and how it impacts Haiti, making it clear that women’s subjugation, worker exploitation, and poverty are global struggles.

Renée Bergan & Mark Schuller
color, 50 min, 2009 $195 $79.95

INDIE SPEC BEST DOCUMENTARY AWARD, BOSTON INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL, 2009 NOMINATED FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AWARD, SANTA BARBARA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL, 2009
PAPA BILONG CHIMBU
Father John Nilles lived with the people of Chimbu in Papua New Guinea for 54 years learning their language and way of life, introducing them to his God and Western culture. More than just a priest, he would become an anthropologist, linguist, politician and clan leader. As the filmmaker pieces together a portrait of her fascinating great-uncle, she discovers an unexpected new family. Her extraordinary tale offers insights into the complexity of colonialism, religion and cultural exchange.

Verena Thomas
color, 54 min, 2009, $195  $39.95

RAI ETHNOGRAPHIC FILM FESTIVAL, UK, 2007
TAHITI INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL, 2008
WORLDFILM TARTU FESTIVAL OF VISUAL CULTURE, ESTONIA, 2008

NGAT IS DEAD: STUDYING MORTUARY TRADITIONS
This film follows a Dutch anthropologist who has been adopted by a family on Baluan Island in Papua New Guinea. Due to the death of his adoptive father, he has to take part in mortuary ceremonies, whose form and content are passionately contested by different groups of relatives. Through prolonged negotiations, Ton learns how Baluan people perform and transform their traditions and not least what role he plays himself.

Christian Suhr, Ton Otto, Steffen Dalsgaard
color, 59 min, 2009, $195  $49.95

PLASTIC FLOWERS NEVER DIE
After years of writing and research on post-Revolution public culture in Iran, anthropologist, writer and filmmaker Roxanne Varzi weaves a year’s worth of interviews with ideologically driven mural painters, museum curators, war vets and secular Iranian youth into an experimental documentary and meditation on the aftermath of war.

Roxanne Varzi
color, 34 min, 2008
$145  $39.95

(UN)VEILED: MUSLIM WOMEN TALK ABOUT HIJAB
(UN)veiled introduces ten Muslim women from various backgrounds living in the United Arab Emirates. In a time when Muslim women are represented as beset by backwardness, these women show the diverse, lively, argumentative debates in Muslim societies about the meanings of modernity, emancipation, and feminism.

Ines Hofmann Kanna
color, 36 min, 2008
$145  $39.95

POSTCARDS FROM TORA BORA
Armed only with rapidly fading memories, a young Afghan-American woman returns to her childhood home after two decades of living in the U.S. to put together the pieces of her past, and frequently finds herself at a strange intersection where cultures clash, identities are mistaken, and the past violently collides with the present.

Kelly Dolak & Wazhmah Osman
color, 87 min, 2007
$195  $49.95
North America

HYMAN BLOOM: THE BEAUTY OF ALL THINGS

One of the forefathers of abstract art in America, Hyman Bloom garnered press and praise in the 1940’s and 50’s. However, due to his exploration of figurative work when the trend moved toward total abstraction and his disdain for the public eye, he is now little known in the mainstream art scene.

Weaving interviews, archival photos, and never before seen sketchbooks, this film highlights a body of work that is a vibrant manifestation of Bloom’s imagination and his dedication to envision what others didn’t dare. Bloom’s story is not a bi/t_e one; it is a triumph of art and of the spirit.

“A wonderful, heartfelt and enlightening film about one of 20th Century art’s neglected greats.”
—SEBASTIAN SMEE, ART CRITIC, THE BOSTON GLOBE

MISS MARGARET

Once there were thousands of licensed Granny Midwives throughout the South. Now there are none. Who were they? Where did they go? Because of segregation, many Americans knew nothing about natural home birth with experienced Grannies like Margaret Charles Smith who learned from each other and could deal with breech deliveries, multiple births and other situations with no medical instruments or drugs.

Diana Paul
color, 37 min, 2009, $145  $39.95

RACE OR REASON: THE BELLPORT DILEMMA

In 1969-70, in the wake of the civil rights movement, a high school in Bellport, a small town on Long Island, NY, became the scene of angry confrontations, resulting in its temporary closure and a police presence. Resident Betty Puleston decided to give black, white and Latino students video cameras to record their concerns and feel empowered by being able to question adults in their community. Thirty years later, these students have gone on to lead socially active lives, and the tapes continue to teach on many levels, revealing the passion of the young activists who felt that minority rights could no longer be ignored.

Angélica Brisk
color, 57 min, 2010
$195  $29.95

George C. Stoney
color, 59 min, 2003, $195  $39.95
FOR OUR STREET FAMILY

The self-portrait, For Our Street Family revolves around a teen drop-in center called Planet Youth, and explores the pain of stereotypes, the importance of peer support, and the ambivalence about identity experienced by a group of First Nations teens in Prince Rupert, British Columbia.

George C. Stoney
color, 59 min, 2003, $195  49.95

BLUE RIBBON, AMERICAN FILM FESTIVAL, 1985

ALL MY BABIES: A MIDWIFE’S OWN STORY

Made in collaboration with the featured midwife, Mary Francis Hill Coley, as well as with the doctors and nurses of Albany, Georgia, this “training film” shows the preparation for and home delivery of healthy babies in both relatively good and bad rural conditions among African American families at that time. The film is not only a profound portrait of “Miss Mary,” but also an remarkable record of the living conditions of her patients. It was selected by the Library of Congress for placement on the National Film Registry in 2002 as “a culturally, historically and artistically significant work.”

George C. Stoney
b&w, 79 min, 1952, $195  29.95

The DVD also includes Palmour Street (1949), a dramatized, open-ended discussion of family relations, which Stoney co-directed for the Georgia Department of Public Health.

SOUTHERN VOICES

This documentary traces the development and premiere performance of an avant-garde symphonic work by Southern composer Sorrel Doris Hays. Based on the sounds and rhythms of Southern speech and musical traditions, it is a journey into childhood memories via the melodies and rhythms of Southern dialect. Stoney combines analysis of her work with interviews in which Hays discusses her struggle with the racism and paternalism of Southern culture.

George C. Stoney
color, 59 min, 2003, $195  49.95

THE SHEPHERD OF THE NIGHT FLOCK

In the 1960’s at St. Peter’s Lutheran Church in Manhattan, Father John Garcia Gensel started a jazz ministry for musicians who couldn’t make it to Sunday morning service after playing late night gigs. It became the spiritual home for many musicians including Zoot Sims, Billy Strayhorn and Billy Taylor, and the legendary jazz great Duke Ellington who referred to Gensel in the title song. It is not only a portrait of the progressive pastor, but a stunning document of the Jazz Vespers and its affect on the church’s other congregations.

George C. Stoney
b&w, 56 min, 1975
$195  49.95

FOR OUR STREET FAMILY

Begun as a participatory group self-portrait, For Our Street Family revolves around a teen drop-in center called Planet Youth, and explores the pain of stereotypes, the importance of peer support, and the ambivalence about identity experienced by a group of First Nations teens in Prince Rupert, British Columbia.

Jennifer Wolowic
color, 34 min, 2008
$145  39.95

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
ETHNOGRAPHIC FILM FESTIVAL, CANADA, 2009
SOCIETY FOR VISUAL ANTHROPOLOGY
FILM FESTIVAL, USA 2009
North America

THE FILMS OF RICHARD BROADMAN

Regarded as an independent among independents, Richard Broadman (1946 – 2000) was an uncompromising filmmaker who specialized in chronicling the American urban experience through oral history. His commitment to presenting the complexity of society’s problems from “the voices and tales of people not usually presented in the media” often left him outside standard documentary and political circles. The result was a powerful kind of film that neither pandered to sponsors nor demeaned the intelligence of the audience.

His films focus on presenting conflicting points of view - sparking dialogue on critical, often unpopular, issues - while still remaining accessible to general audiences. A resident of Boston, where many of his films are set, Broadman also taught film history and ran his own film production and distribution company. DER is proud to inherit this invaluable collection, most of which are now available on DVD for the first time.

BROWNSVILLE BLACK AND WHITE

This powerful documentary explores the complex history of interracial cooperation, urban change, and social conflict in Brooklyn’s Brownsville neighborhood — “The First American Ghetto”— from the 1930’s to the present. A case study of the tragedy of urban American race relations, the film recounts its transformation from a poor but racially harmonious area made up largely of Jewish and black residents to its disintegration following a disastrous policy of urban renewal.

Richard Broadman & Laurann Black

color, 83 min, 2002, $195 [+] $39.95 []

THE COLLECTIVE: FIFTEEN YEARS LATER

In 1970, thousands of young people thought of themselves as agents of change. They wanted to restore America’s democratic vision; they wanted to end the war in Vietnam. This is the story of one collective — their successes and failures, and what they do and think today.

Richard Broadman

b&w, 60 min, 1985, $195 [+] $39.95 []

“... evenhandedly and compassionately embraces the paradoxes, contradictions, idealism and just plain nuttiness that the survivors ruefully recall... Its intimate scale and introspective tone double its impact.”

— JAY CARR, THE BOSTON GLOBE

WATER AND THE DREAM OF THE ENGINEERS

This is a fascinating documentary where rich social history frames a spirited debate between an environmentalist, biologist, and engineer. Focusing on the particular cases of New Orleans and California, the film reveals the surprising and storied history of water systems in the US. Exploring conflicts over technology and the environment, exposing power politics and revealing how water development has shaped society, this is a crucial study shedding light on the roots of today’s water wars.

Richard Broadman

color, 80 min, 1983, $195 [+] $39.95 []

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LOVE STORIES: WOMEN, MEN & ROMANCE

As men and women struggle to redefine relationships in a society where the concept of marriage continually changes, Love Stories continues to resonate. Personal stories document the growth of feminism and the male reaction, fueling debates over lifestyle, sex roles and birth control.

Richard Broadman
color, 85 min, 1987
$195 $39.95

MISSION HILL AND THE MIRACLE OF BOSTON

Mission Hill was an Irish neighborhood of homes and small stores in which people lived near their schools, their church, and their shopping area. Between 1940 and 1980 thousands of units of public housing were built, hospitals expanded, apartment buildings erected, and a new, poor population competed with affluent professionals. Filled with the stories of real estate developers, community activists and residents, this classic film remains unique in presenting one neighborhood’s social history set against the larger forces that reshaped a major American city.

Richard Broadman
b&w, 60 min, 1978, $195 $39.95

CHILDREN OF LABOR: A FINNISH-AMERICAN HISTORY

Three generations of Finnish-Americans recount how they coped with harsh realities by creating their own institutions: churches, temperance halls, socialist halls, and cooperatives. The film focuses on the people, their organizations, and the challenges posed by both McCarthy-era political repression and present-day consumerism.

Richard Broadman
b&w, 55 min, 1977, $195 $39.95

“The film is refreshingly free of both propaganda and preaching. ...a fascinating, richly anecdotal document on a particularly lively chapter in the history of the American working class.”

—DETROIT FREE PRESS

DOWN THE PROJECT: THE CRISIS OF PUBLIC HOUSING

A classic portrait of a government program besieged on all sides, this film presents a concise social history of the public housing movement and examines the social dilemmas involved. Residents, advocates, developers, administrators and politicians tell how public housing began and how dramatically it changed.

Richard Broadman
b&w, 60 min, 1982
$195 $39.95
WHEN MEDICINE GOT IT WRONG

In 1974, a small group of parents became the first in the nation to publicly refuse blame for causing their children to have schizophrenia. When Medicine Got it Wrong shows how these families launched one of the fastest growing grassroots movements the nation had seen to date, ushering in an era of dramatic advances in understanding, treatment and brain research.

Katie Cadigan & Laura Murray

color, 53 min, 2009

$195  $39.95

CHILDREN LEFT BEHIND

The compelling stories of public school students struggling with mandatory high-stakes tests provide a springboard for the exploration of the unintended educational, political and social consequences. The documentary raises the important question of whether we are leaving too many children behind in our quest for higher test scores.

Louis Kruger

color, 46 min 2009, $145  $39.95

SCENES FROM A PARISH

An irreverent, young Harvard-educated Catholic priest arrived at Saint Patrick Parish in Lawrence, Massachusetts and soon discovered that fostering an inclusive community amidst the ethnic tensions of this working-class, multicultural parish would be no mean feat. This surprising, moving film explores the personal stories that fill a parish struggling to reconcile the ideals of faith with the cultural realities of the US today.

James Rutenbeck

color, 90 min, 2009, $250  $24.95

FULLY AWAKE: BLACK MOUNTAIN COLLEGE

Fully Awake chronicles the brief but influential existence of the North Carolina-based experimental Black Mountain College, from 1933 to 1957. A haven for the avant-garde, the college’s curriculum inspired collaboration and innovation. During its years of activity, the school significantly affected the American art scene, creating new models of artistic production that altered the very definition of “art.”

Catherine Davis Zomer & Neely House

color, 60 min, 2007, $195  $29.95

BERKSHIRE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL, 2007
MUSEUM OF MODERN ART, NEW YORK, 2006
GUGGENHEIM MUSEUM BILBAO, SPAIN, 2008
“We failed to understand why parents of a child with leukemia were treated with sympathy and understanding, while parents of a child with schizophrenia were treated with scorn and condemnation.”
— Eve Oliphant, 1977 Speech, World Congress of Psychiatry

KOED BROADCAST, 2009
PBS BROADCAST, 2009
NAMI NATIONAL CONVENTION, SAN FRANCISCO, 2009
FRAMES OF MIND MENTAL HEALTH FILM SERIES,
VANCOUVER, BC, CANADA, 2009
ANTHROPOLOGY FILM FESTIVAL, AT UBC,
VANCOUVER, CANADA, 2010

MARION STODDART: THE WORK OF 1000

This is the parallel journey of two characters: one a young woman discouraged at her future as a suburban housewife, the other a river - once beautiful and teeming with wildlife - now a hopeless, toxic sludge pit. Chronicling an important episode in U.S. environmental history, this inspirational story examines the human side of acclaimed environmental pioneer Marion Stoddart who proved that with vision and commitment, an “ordinary” person can accomplish extraordinary things.

Susan Edwards
color, 30 min, 2010, $145 $79.95 $29.95

UMIAQ SKIN BOAT

Shot against the magnificent backdrop of the northern landscape, Umiaq Skin Boat is a beautiful and poetic film about a group of Inuit elders Inukjuak, Quebec, who decide one summer to build the first traditional seal skin boat their community has seen in over 50 years. The film bears witness to the resilience of the Inuit spirit in changing times.

Jobie Weetaluktuk
color, 31 min, 2008, $145 $39.95

DA FEAST!

What makes the annual feast of San Paulino di Nola in Williamsburg, New York so spectacular is the Giglio, an 85-foot, 3-ton obelisk that is carried through the streets along with a full brass band, church pastor, and many revelers. Filmed on the Giglio’s 100th anniversary this documentary features the colorful characters who emerge to celebrate for political, communal, familial, and cosmic causes in a rapidly changing community.

Artemis Willis
color, 22 min 2009, $95 $29.95

Includes soundtrack on CD

PEACING IT TOGETHER

On a secluded island off the west coast of Canada a group of Palestinian, Israeli and Canadian teens participated in a unique peace and filmmaking camp organized by the Peace It Together Society. During their stay they worked in small collaborative groups to produce films about the Middle East conflict. Through the camera’s lens they reflect their lives, fears, and hopes.

Erik Paulsson & Nova Ami
color, 29 min, 2008, $195 $49.95
THE ODYSSEY SERIES

In an attempt to cut the often esoteric ice of anthropology, PBS released in 1980 the first season of Odyssey, a series of anthropological documentaries, with a second season in 1981. DER carries sixteen of the original programs, the subject matter ranging from archaeological explorations, the lives of women in a North Indian village (Dadi’s Family), slices of American traditional culture (Ben’s Mill, On The Cowboy Trail), to the work of two of America’s foremost anthropologists (Franz Boas, Margaret Mead: Taking Note).

On DVD for the first time, this award-winning series is already a classic in classrooms and homes worldwide.

Michael Ambrosino (Producer)
color, 59 min each, 1980
$145 $39.95

The Ancient Mariners
Ben’s Mill
The Chaco Legacy
Dadi’s Family
Franz Boas
The Incas
Little Injustices
Margaret Mead: Taking Note
Maasai Women

Maya Lords of the Jungle
Myths and the Moundbuilders
Ongka’s Big Moka
On the Cowboy Trail
Other People’s Garbage
Seeking the First Americans
The Three Worlds of Bali

THE PROFESSIONAL FOREIGNER:
ASEN BALIKCI & VISUAL ETHNOGRAPHY

In a series of talks with filmmaker Rolf Husmann, renowned anthropologist and ethno graphic filmmaker Asen Balikci visits different locations to show and discuss his life and work, including his recent work among the Bulgarian Pomak and in Sikkim (India). The Professional Foreigner is not only the portrait of a famous expert in Visual Ethnography, but also more generally touches upon vital issues of ethnographic filmmaking.

Rolf Husmann, Manfred Krüger
color, 60 min, 2009
$195 $49.95

International
Sensory Ethnography Lab Collection

SONGHAU
The Songhua River runs through Harbin, the capital of China’s Heilongjiang province and serves as the city’s main water source. At all hours of the day, people flock to the crowded urban space where Harbin meets the river. By attending to the everyday activities of leisure and labor unfolding along the banks and promenade, Songhua depicts the intimate and complex relationship between Harbin city residents and their “mother river.”

J.P. Sniadecki
color, 29 min, 2007
$149 ▶ $39.95 ▶

MONSOON-REFLECTIONS
Drawing its title from a poem by the Nepali poet Lekhnath Paudyal, this video focuses on the melancholy and grit of two female Nepali field hands as they carry out their monsoon routines in Lekhnath, Nepal. It is a sensorial riposte to Paudyal’s idealistic depiction of the monsoon as “joyous from start to finish,” by means of reflections upon labor, gender, and fleeting pleasure in rural Nepal.

Stephanie Spray
color, 23 min, 2008
$145 ▶ $39.95 ▶

STILL LIFE
Exploring the mediations of memory among three generations of Palestinian refugees living in Lebanon, this documentary considers how a series of photos brought to Lebanon by Said Otruk, an elderly Palestinian fisherman from Acre, mediate both his present experience and recollections of his life in Palestine before 1948. We see how the “reality” represented in these images has become conflated with the images themselves.

Diana Allen
color, 25 min, 2007
$145 ▶ $39.95 ▶

KÄLE AND KÄLE
Portraying the subtle interactions and relationships between an uncle and nephew — both nicknamed Käle — and their families in rural Nepal, this documentary avoids a conventional ethnographic approach. Rather than depicting these individuals as representatives of a particular caste — in this case as itinerant musicians known as the Gaïne — it slowly discloses the roles they play within their families, in village society, and in neighboring communities through a series of discrete vignettes. The work invites the viewer to engage unhurriedly and sensorially with its subjects and their environment.

Stephanie Spray
color, 51 min, 2008
$195 ▶ $49.95 ▶

CHAIQIAN (DEMOLITION)
This is a portrait of urban space, migrant labor, and ephemeral relationships in the center of Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan province in western China. Attending first to the formal dimensions of the transforming worksite — including the demands of physical labor and the relationship between human and machine — the film shifts focus to the social dynamics of a group of thirty men and women.

J.P. Sniadecki
color, 62 min, 2008
$195 ▶ $49.95 ▶

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DER introduces works from Harvard University’s acclaimed new Sensory Ethnography Lab headed by Lucien Castaing-Taylor. Experimenting within the interstices of art and anthropology, the videos focus on cross-cultural social experience and subjectivity.
Documentary Educational Resources produces, distributes, and promotes quality ethnographic and documentary films from around the world. Founded by filmmakers whose collaborations reflected a lifetime of engagement and respect for their subjects, DER continues to foster cross-cultural education and understanding through documentary film.

MISSION

DER’s mission is to cultivate community engagement with the peoples and cultures of the world in which we live through media that is both entertaining and educational. We address the need for tolerance and understanding of people who are different than ourselves. This need is universal and more evident in today’s global political, social and cultural climate than ever before. Underlying the diversity of the films we produce and distribute is the conviction that documentary and ethnographic films can broaden and alter preconceptions of marginalized and underrepresented peoples and cultures within the United States’ population and abroad. We also maintain an archive of historical significance and public interest. Our programs reach millions of individuals throughout the world, each year, through broadcast, film festivals and classrooms.

DIGITAL DOWNLOADS FROM DER

Many of our films are now available for purchase or rental as high-quality DVD downloads, with more becoming active all the time. In addition, we are offering some titles, such as Abstinence Comes to Albuquerque, A Tribute to John Marshall, and Born in Pakistan for free, as downloads or DVDs (for the cost of shipping).

Also, our website now features previews or trailers of most of our titles. We hope this will assist our customers in making the right content decisions to fit their needs — whether for classroom use, research, broadcast, or personal enjoyment.

Visit the DER website (www.der.org) regularly to find the most current releases, featured films from the archive, and free study guide materials. We look forward to hearing from you.