



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **ARPA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES DATES FRANCOPHONE FOCUS**

**(HOLLYWOOD, CA) July 10, 2010 - The 13th annual Arpa International Film Festival will present screenings, receptions, networking events, and opening and closing night premieres over 6 days from Tuesday, September 21 to Sunday, September 26 at the Egyptian Theatre in Hollywood.**

More than 30 feature films, shorts, documentaries, music videos and animations from 30 nations including Armenia, Venezuela, Turkey, Brazil, France, Peru, Canada, Malawi, Spain, China, India, and Iran will be screened during the Hollywood-based festival.

Arpa continues to serve as a resource for international filmmakers exploring the often challenging subjects of war, exile, genocide, and environmentalism. Arpa will also present **FrancophoneFest-Cinema**, highlighting the cultural diversity of French language films from around the world. "We're very excited to be presenting cinema from the diverse collective of Francophone nations," says festival programmer Armen Toumajan. **ADD MORE**

Festival highlights include an opening night reception held under the auspices of the **Consulate General of the Republic of Armenia** celebrating Armenian Independence Day with a special screening of the restored 1925 Armenian silent film, **Namus**.

Once again, **AT&T Real Yellow Pages** will present the **Arpa/AT&T Award for Environmental Conservation and Stewardship** to a filmmaker addressing green initiatives.

2010 recipient of the festival's **Armin T. Wegner Award**, which each year is awarded to a motion picture that contributes to the fight for social conscience and human rights, is **Eric Friedler** for his critically acclaimed feature film, **Aghet – Ein Volkermörd.**

Both awards will be handed out at the 2010 Arpa Awards Gala and Reception on Sunday, September 26. Past Arpa International Film Festival award recipients include Academy Award-nominated director **Atom Egoyan** (*The Sweet Hereafter*); Academy Award-nominated actress **Shohreh Aghdashloo** (*House of Sand and Fog*); award-winning actress and human rights activist **Mary Apick** (*Beneath the Veil*); award-winning producers **Robert Papazian** and **Jim Hirsch**.

### **About Arpa International Film Festival**

The 13<sup>th</sup> annual Arpa International Film Festival runs September 21-26 at the Egyptian Theatre located at 6712 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90028. Individual screening passes go on sale September 7. All-Access Gold Passes are currently on sale. For more information on screening passes, Gold Passes, or sponsorship and advertising opportunities, please visit [www.AFFMA.org](http://www.AFFMA.org) or call 323-663-1882.

### **AFFMA**

The 13<sup>th</sup> annual film festival is the signature event of **Arpa Foundation for Film, Music and Art (AFFMA)** which was founded in 1995 for the purpose of enhancing the Los Angeles community's environment and supporting artists who bridge the cultural divide. AFFMA also annually stages concerts, art exhibits, networking events, and film benefits.

To send AFFMA a tax-deductible donation, please mail donations to AFFMA - 2919 Maxwell St., Los Angeles, CA 90027. All donations go towards the production of AFFMA's annual film festival.

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SOURCE: ARPA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL