



## THE INSIGHT FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES ITS WINNING FILM

A remarkable film graphically detailing a spiritual journey from birth to death has won the Premier Award at the second INSIGHT FILM FESTIVAL held in the Zion Centre Manchester, England.

The film, *Who's Driving the Dreambus?* was made by Boris and Claire Jänsch and shows Boris' personal journey through a series of interviews with spiritual teachers, philosophers and writers. It is a visual quest to unravel what it means to be alive.

Boris describes it as "a radical and challenging documentary venturing into the heart of the mystery of identity, flipping the idea of spiritual endeavour on its head, revealing a message so profound and yet so simple that it might just end the search".

Dr David Butler, chair of the Festival Selection organisation and lecturer in Film Studies at the University of Manchester Screen Centre said "The film really gets to the heart of the festival – it asks questions, doesn't provide prescriptive answers, there are beautiful images and memorable moments - not least the footage of the film maker's own birth".

The Judging panel consisted of the BBC's Head of Religion and Ethics Aaqil Ahmed; film maker Tina Ghavari; film producer/writer Liz Rymer, and Dr Rajinder Dudrah, Head of Drama at the University of Manchester and Tommy Nagra, executive producer BBC Religion.

The Premier Award winner received £1,000 from the Insight Film Festival and the winning film will be shown at the next Mostra De Cinema e Religio Lgogo, a partnered religious film festival in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Festival Director, John Forrest, said "There has been enormous interest in this year's Insight Festival. Although it is a U.K. event, interest and entries had been received from all over the world. We are convinced that the time is right to encourage young film makers to make films about faith"

Two further films were also commended by the jury - **Choices**, a pensive film portraying "a woman who finds herself on a long, never ending road to nowhere, with no idea how she got there," written and directed by Ryan Hendrick from Glasgow; and **The Bees**, a documentary portraying the life of a Lebanese Bee Keeper that reveals hidden secrets about her life and the way it has been shaped by her own faith and the faith of others. Directed by Rana Ayoub from Edinburgh.

A further award for a film entered into the Festival was made to 'What the Gods Want' by Signis, the International Catholic Film Organisation. The film by Nital Mistry from Preston depicts a young Brahman who arrives in the UK from a small Indian village and how he attempts bring back parishioners to the temple.

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