

EMBARGOED  
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2009

insight FILMS OF FAITH

PRESS RELEASE

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## A £1000 FOR A FILM ABOUT FAITH

The organisers of THE INSIGHT FILM FESTIVAL will be awarding a prize of £1,000 to a film which can help to explore faith. Entries are invited from young film makers.

The Festival's winning film will also be screened at Mostra De Cinema e Religio Lgogo, a religious film festival in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Organisers have assembled a team of high profile judges to make the premier award to a film which can 'aid understanding of faith' whilst contributing to community cohesion.

The judges include film maker Tina Gavari, film producer/writer Liz Rymer, Channel 4's editor of Religion and Community programmes Aquil Ahmed and Dr Rajinder Dudrah, head of the centre for Screen Studies at the University of Manchester.

A further award is being offered by Signis, the international Catholic film organisation which routinely makes awards in Cannes, Berlin and other major film festivals. Signis are offering a special award for a 'short film that best dramatises human values on screen'.

The Festival and award presentations will take place in November 2009. The closing date for entries is 14th September 2009.

The INSIGHT FILM FESTIVAL began in Manchester, U.K. in 2007 by a group of professionals in the film and media industry wanting to make a serious contribution to community cohesion through film and moving image. Its partners currently include the BBC and the University of Manchester Centre for Screen Studies.

The awards have attracted global interest and entries and enquiries have been made from throughout the UK. Manchester is a key city for media of all types and is at the forefront in the drive towards global digital communication.

Presenting the first Insight Festival Award in 2007, Michael Wakelin, the BBC's Head of Religion and Ethics said 'To create a better society we must learn to understand each others faith and values. My fulsome backing goes to this festival'

John Forrest, Festival Director, said 'We live in a world where the impact of faith is as significant as ever. Film and media allow us to express ourselves and to communicate with each other. Let's do it!'

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For further information contact: John Forrest 07948 - 279855

[www.insightfestival.co.uk](http://www.insightfestival.co.uk)