

insight FILMS OF FAITH

IN ASSOCIATION WITH COEXIST

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BEGINS:

HOLLYWOOD ELITE SHINE LIGHT ON FAITH FILM FESTIVAL

Insight Film Festival attracts the attention of Hollywood's best and brightest

Award winning filmmakers are among the industry professionals to join the judging panel for the Insight Festival - an international festival devoted to films which explore 'faith'. The panel currently boasts **Academy Award nominated producer Gary Kurtz** (*Star Wars, The Empire Strikes Back, American Graffiti*) and **Emmy winning screenwriter** and treasurer-secretary of the **Writer's Guild of America, David Weiss** (*Shrek 2*). Other judges include **Amanda Rice** (**BBC Head of Diversity**) and **Nev Pierce** (freelance film journalist and **Editor-at-Large** for *Empire Magazine*).

The Insight Festival was created in the UK in 2007 by a number of media professionals who wanted to promote **community cohesion** by encouraging film makers to look at faith, and has grown into an international film festival **attracting entries from across the globe**. Insight focuses on faith as a theme, not working to promote any religious or nonreligious views, instead offering a platform through which faith can be explored, discussed and understood.

Filmmakers of all faiths and none are welcome to enter their films for selection and awards at the festival, and some **incredible money-can't-buy prizes** are on offer for the best entries. One award is a **summer place** at the **internationally acclaimed Ecole Internationale de Creation Audiovisuelle et de Réalisation (EICAR)** film school in **Paris**. Other awards include the **Coexist Prize of £1,000 cash** and **the chance to sit on an international film jury in Italy as a judge**. A filmmaker under the age of 18 may be offered the possibility of **making a film about faith with the involvement of Tony Blair**. Winning films will be screened at the Insight Film Festival in November 2011 and will receive further global attention through screenings at *Mostra De Cinema e Religio* in Sao Paulo, and *Religion Today* in Rome.

Together with associate partner the Coexist Foundation, the Insight Festival encourages talented young film-makers from across the world to develop films exploring inter-religious understanding. Insight is also partnering with several major organisations including the **Tony Blair Faith Foundation** (Faith Shorts Competition), **SIGNIS** - the World Catholic Association for Communication, **Andrew Sumner Associates, Jonathan Ford and Co, Film International Magazine, The University of Manchester** and the **BBC**.

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General Information

Insight Film Festival was founded in Manchester, UK in 2007. The 2011 Festival will be the third biennial event and will take place in Manchester and London in November 2011. Insight focuses on faith as a genre, but is not a religious organisation and does not work to promote any viewpoint. The festival is now held in association with The Coexist Foundation and is supported by partners from across the media and religious sectors.

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