



**For Immediate Release
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MEDIA ALERT

**FIRST ANNUAL SILVERDOCS FILM FESTIVAL TO BE HELD
JUNE 18-22 AT AFI SILVER THEATRE IN SILVER SPRING, MD**

AFI/Discovery Channel Festival to Showcase Best of Global Documentary Films

Silver Spring, Maryland, May 5, 2003 – SILVERDOCS: AFI/Discovery Channel Documentary Festival has accepted over 1,000 entries from 68 countries for its inaugural festival to be held between June 18 and 22, 2003. Created and sponsored through a unique collaboration between the American Film Institute and the Discovery Channel, **SILVERDOCS** will establish benchmarks for excellence in the international documentary field.

SILVERDOCS will celebrate, honor and showcase approximately 60 films worldwide. The Festival will be held at the newly restored, state-of-the-art AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center in downtown Silver Spring, MD.

SILVERDOCS will present four Symposia screenings as the signature events that define the festival. These Symposia will feature notable moderators and guest discussants to offer a unique perspective on the issues raised in each film.

The full slate of films as well as the spotlight Symposia will be announced during the third week of May.

What: SILVERDOCS: AFI/Discovery Channel Documentary Festival

When: June 18-22, 2003

Where: AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center
Silver Spring, Maryland

Tickets: Available on May 22 by visiting www.silverdocs.com or at the AFI Silver box office.

More About the AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center

Anchored by the rehabilitation of noted architect John Eberson's historic 1938 Silver Theatre, the AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center is a 49,000 square foot complex with three theatres—one historic, two new state-of-the-art stadium-style theatres—a café, a film-based retail outlet, office and meeting spaces, and reception and exhibition areas. It is the anchor of an unprecedented public/private redevelopment effort in downtown Silver Spring, Maryland.

The AFI Silver is located in downtown Silver Spring, Maryland, at 8633 Colesville Road (between Georgia Avenue and Fenton Street). Conveniently located, the AFI Silver is two blocks from the Silver Spring Metro stop and easily accessible from the Capital Beltway (I-495), less than two miles from either the Georgia Avenue or Colesville Road exit. Phone: 301.495.6720. Web: <http://AFI.com/Silver>.

More About AFI

AFI is the preeminent organization dedicated to advancing and preserving the art of film, television and other forms of the moving image. AFI trains the next generation of filmmakers, coordinates nationwide film preservation efforts and explores new technologies in moviemaking. AFI also presents the best of film through the AFI Los Angeles International Film Festival (AFI FEST); the AFI National Film Theater at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC; the AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center in Silver Spring, Maryland; and the AFI Life Achievement Award, the highest honor given for a career in film. AFI's annual almanac for the 21st century, **AFI AWARDS**, honors the most outstanding motion pictures and television programs of the year. In addition, **AFI's 100 Years . . . 100 Movies, 100 Stars, 100 Laughs, 100 Thrills, 100 Passions** and **100 Heroes & Villains** (airing June 2003) have ignited extraordinary public interest in classic American movies. More information about AFI can be found by visiting its Web site, located at www.AFI.com.

More About Discovery Communications

Discovery Communications, Inc. is the leading global real-world media and entertainment company. DCI has grown from its core property, the Discovery Channel, first launched in the United States in 1985, to current global operations in more than 155 countries and territories with over 830 million cumulative subscribers. DCI's 33 networks of distinctive programming represent 14 entertainment brands including TLC, Animal Planet, Travel Channel, Discovery Health Channel, Discovery Kids, Discovery Civilization, The Science Channel, Discovery Wings Channel, Discovery Home &

Leisure and Discovery en Español. DCI's other properties consist of Discovery.com and 167 Discovery Channel retail stores. DCI also distributes BBC America in the United States. DCI's ownership consists of four shareholders: Liberty Media Corporation (NYSE: L), Cox Communications, Inc. (NYSE: COX), Advance/Newhouse Communications and John S. Hendricks, the Company's Founder, Chairman and CEO.

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