ARTISTS FOR AMNESTY

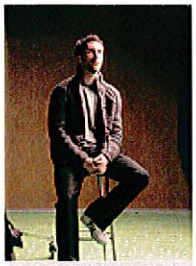
ARTISTS FOR AMNESTY IS A GROUP OF ARTISTS COMMITTED TO PREVENTING HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES, SAVING LIVES AND PROMOTING A GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHTS.

MONTHLY BULLETIN

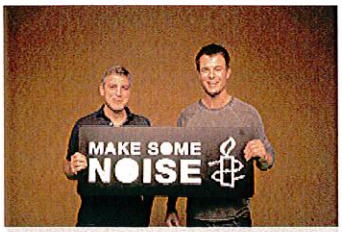
FEBRUARY 2006

Welcome to the *Artists for Amnesty Monthly Bulletin*, which will keep you informed on critical human rights issues, cases of individuals at risk, and the life-saving work of Amnesty International. Our Monthly Bulletin will also highlight the efforts of artists on behalf of human rights.

make some noise



Adam Levine © 2005 George Gargurevich



George Clooney and Josh Duhamel © 2005 George Gargurevich

Haley Duff © 2005 Michael Tsay

High-profile international artists. Classic Lennon tracks. United for human rights. This is *Make Some Noise* - a mix of music, celebration and action in support of Amnesty International. Music can change the world, but only with your voice.

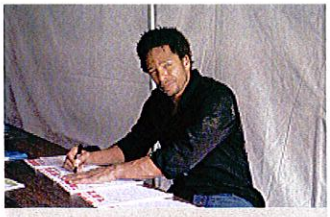
Make Some Noise is about music with a message. This venture from Amnesty International seeks to use the power of music to reach out to a new generation of young supporters to join us in protecting individuals wherever justice, freedom and equality are denied. With exclusive Lennon covers, artist videos and opportunities to make an impact, we hope to inspire a new generation to "stand up" for human rights.

On December 10th and 11th, a host of Amnesty International supporters from the artistic community came together to shoot a commercial for the ***Make Some Noise*** campaign to help bring Amnesty's message to the next wave of human rights activists. Waldo Sanchez directed and Kelly Martin produced. Public Service Announcements for our Stop Violence Against Women (SVAW), Stop Torture, Control Arms and Free Prisoners of Conscience campaigns were also filmed.

Piper Perabo
© 2005 George Gargurevich

Lennon's music is every bit as relevant today as when it was first released. We still face injustice, poverty and war. Every track you buy supports the work of Amnesty International to protect human rights worldwide.

Oded Fehr © 2005 Michael Tsay



Gary Dourdan © 2005 George Gargurevich

Djimon Hounsou © 2005 Michael Tsay

Check out the ***Make Some Noise*** (MSN) website in the coming weeks to see the PSAs and keep your eyes out for the commercial on TV screens around the world. For more information and to download tracks, please visit our website at www.amnesty.org/noise.

Eva Mendes
© 2005 George Gargurevich

mine & yours

Ricky Ullman © 2005 Jesse Grant/ Wireimage.com

Artists for Amnesty celebrated International Human Rights Day on December 10th by launching the book ***Mine & Yours: Human Rights for Kids*** on the west coast. The book launch took place in conjunction with a choral performance by the Paulist Choristers at St. Paul the Apostle Church. The event was hosted by actor Ricky Ullman.

Mine & Yours is the first picture book on human rights for young children. The book is part of a larger educational initiative for primary school students. One hundred percent of the author's royalties will go directly to the Human Rights Education Program of AIUSA.

For information on how to purchase *Mine & Yours*, please contact Jamie Skaluba at jskaluba@aiusa.org.

The Paulist Choristers of California & Ricky Ullman © 2005 Jesse Grant/Wireimage.com

god sleeps in rwanda

On December 14th, Artists for Amnesty hosted a screening of the Academy Award® nominated documentary ***God Sleeps in Rwanda*** at the Aidikoff Screening Room in Beverly Hills. ***God Sleeps in Rwanda*** follows the stories of five women while they rebuild their lives and redefine women's roles in Rwandan society.

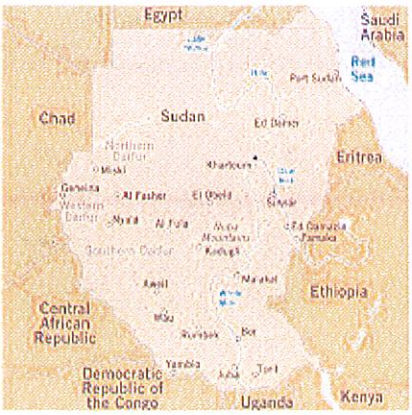
Kimberlee Acquaro, Norah Bagarinka, Ryan Gosling & Stacy Sherman © 2005 Maury Phillips/ Wireimage.com

Norah Bagarinka & Kimberlee Acquaro © 2005 Maury Phillips/ Wireimage.com

The screening was hosted by actor Ryan Gosling who shared his experiences visiting refugees in Chad and Sudan. Genocide survivor, Norah Bagarinka and Directors Kimberlee Acquaro and Stacy Sherman participated in a Q&A after the screening.

human rights activists harassed

HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS HARRASSED IN SUDAN



Amnesty International expressed serious concern about the safety of human rights defenders in Sudan on January 22, 2006, following the detention of delegates, including an Amnesty International representative, at a non-governmental organization (NGO) forum being held in Khartoum.

"Last night's events signal a worrying increase in the crackdown against human rights workers on the part of the Sudanese government, and we fear there is more to come. We call on the government of Sudan to stop all harassment of human rights activists in the country immediately," said Kolawole Olaniyan, Director of Amnesty International's Africa Program.

The NGO forum brought together national and international NGOs, two representatives of the UN, and representatives of the European Commission to discuss issues regarding peace and justice in the region.

At 5:55 pm local time, security forces in plain clothes entered the building where the NGO forum was being held. The security forces ordered all delegates to switch off their mobile phones, said that the meeting was "unauthorized," and demanded the names of all participants, who were ordered to hand over all documents and laptops. When some participants resisted, the security forces forced open their bags and small scuffles broke out. More security forces entered and surrounded the room while still and digital photographs, along with recorded video, were taken of all the participants. Some participants where threatened with future problems if they did not comply with the orders of the security forces.

Security forces attempted to divide the participants into international and national groups and to separate women from men. Many refused both requests. Meanwhile, a crowd had formed outside, comprised mainly of journalists and diplomatic representatives. Security forces prevented them from entering the building.

Around 9.00 pm, security forces attempted to release those representing international groups but hold back the Sudanese nationals. The international participants resisted, fearing for the safety of the Sudanese nationals. Finally all were taken to the front gate, where again attempts were made to separate the two groups, until finally all participants were released.

lord of war

Nicolas Cage in *Lord of War* courtesy of Lion's Gate Films.

On January 17, 2006, Lionsgate and Amnesty International held a special screening of *Lord of War* at the United Nations in New York City. The screening celebrated the release of the film on DVD and coincided with the Preparatory Commission (PrepCom) meeting in which delegates from United Nations Member States gathered to decide the agenda of the high-level Review Conference on small arms in June.

Writer/Director Andrew Niccol addressed those who attended the event, which included high level UN delegates and representatives from over 120 countries.

Lord of War, which was released nationally last September, tells the story of an arms broker (Nicolas Cage) who traffics weapons to dictators and human rights abusers while an Interpol agent (Ethan Hawke) tries to stop him. The movie co-stars Jared Leto, Bridget Moynahan, Eamonn Walker, and Ian Holm.

upcoming events

Tsotsi *- Premiere*

Written and directed by Gavin Hood, Tsotsi portrays the story of a young gang leader who steals a woman's car, unaware that her baby is in the back seat. Tsotsi is nominated for an Academy Award® for Best Documentary.

February 22, 2006
Pacific Design Center
by invitation only

2006 Celebration of Artistic Freedom
Academy Awards® Viewing Party
March 5, 2006
Pearl Restaurant/The Factory
Honoring Academy Award® Winner *Mira Sorvino*
Special guest - Jose Ramos Horta, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Timor Leste & 1996 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate
by invitation only

Water **-** *Los Angeles Premiere*

Set in 1938 India, the film follows eight year old Chuiya who is sent to an ashram following the death of her adult husband.
March 8, 2006—International Women's Day
by invitation only

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