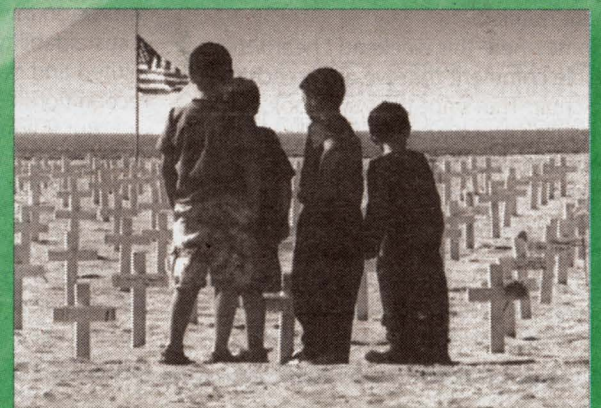
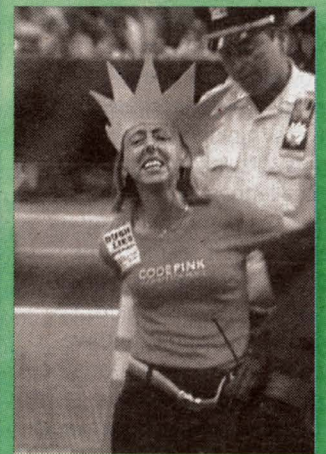


# HopeDance

Radical Solutions Inspiring Hope

#49 March / April, 2005 • www.hopedance.org

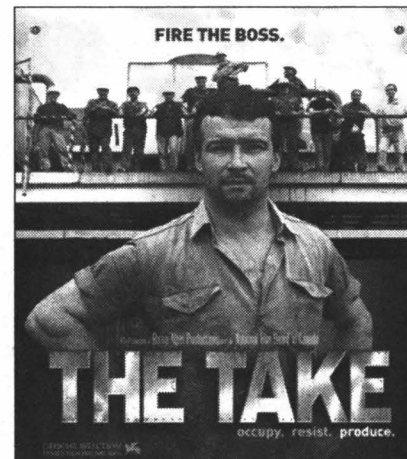
Abandoning single-issue, complaint-based Activism



- 2 Beyond Peak Oil by Richard Heinberg
- 5 Is Environmentalism Dead? by Stacey Warde
- 6 Who are those Bad Boys who are Deconstructing Environmentalism? by Bill McKibben
- 8 The Continuing Saga of the Local Biodiesel Story by Ryan LaPorte
- 10 Democracy Now! finally on KCBX — the Story of How it Came to Be by Mark Phillips
- 12 Medea Benjamin, CodePink and Activism by Justin Popoy
- 16 Experiencing the Eco-Farm Conference by Liana Forest
- 26 Eco-Urbanism and Permaculture by Larry Santoyo
- 21 NEW FILMS!!! in SLO, Cambria and Santa Barbara

# Contents

## #49 / March / April, 2005



- Richard Heinberg 2 BEYOND PEAK OIL  
*The author of Powerdown speaks at the First US Conference on Peak Oil and Community Solutions*
- Stacey Warde 5 IS ENVIRONMENTALISM DEAD?  
*Freelance writer Stacey Warde explores the heated debate. Will Environmentalists become Progressives and move beyond single-issue, complaint-based Activism?*
- Bill McKibben 6 BAD BOYS, BAD BOYS  
*Famed Environmentalist Bill McKibben explores the environmentalism is dead debate at the recent "What Works?" Conference in Vermont where "bad boys" Michael Shellenberger and Ted Nordhaus present their findings.*
- Ryan LaPorte 8 PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE OF BIODIESEL AND ALCOHOL  
*Local biodiesel truck owner and solutions activist writes an overview of the biodiesel debate and its solutions.*
- Mark Phillips 10 THE STORY BEHIND BRINGING DEMOCRACY NOW! TO KCBX  
*Local campaign activist writes about his struggles, the surprising outcome, and shares his newfound wisdom in working with difficult people.*
- Justin Popov 12 MEDEA BENJAMIN, CODEPINK AND ACTIVISM  
*Intern Justin Popov summarizes key points in Medea Benjamin's recent presentation in San Luis Obispo.*
- Bob Banner, Dr. John Mack 14 A TRIBUTE TO JOHN MACK, M.D.  
*Harvard psychiatrist who had the courage to explore the alien abductee phenomenon, died last September. Three pieces are included in this Tribute. A film will be shown detailing his work (see insert).*
- Liana Forest 16 EXPERIENCING THE ECO-FARM CONFERENCE  
*Local Farm-to-School Activist reports on the exciting and power-packed conference at the Ecological Farming Conference at Asilomar.*
- George Vye 18 CHICKEN LITTLE WAS RIGHT!  
*Everything you ever wanted to know about the end of civilization, and then some... with numerous sources.*
- FiLMS** 21-24 FILMS FOR SLO, CAMBRIA & SANTA BARBARA
- Larry Santoyo 26 PERMACULTURE, ECO-URBANISM AND THE FUTURE OF SUSTAINABILITY  
*Larry Santoyo answers numerous questions about permaculture while focusing on the urban aspect of sustainability.*
- Brad Lancaster 27 STREET ORCHARDS FOR COMMUNITY SECURITY  
*An inspiring report on what a community can do when it deals with a community's real needs, like food and water, that most of us take for granted.*
- Shorts 29 SHORTS SECTION
- Contributors 34 BOOK REVIEWS
- Wes Roe 40 PERMACULTURE & NATURAL BUILDING NEWS
- OTHER SHORTS: *Bo Lozoff and Biodiesel (9); SLO CODEPink group (13); Report on For The Future (20); SLO Announcements (20); Katie Donovan: A Tribute (25)*

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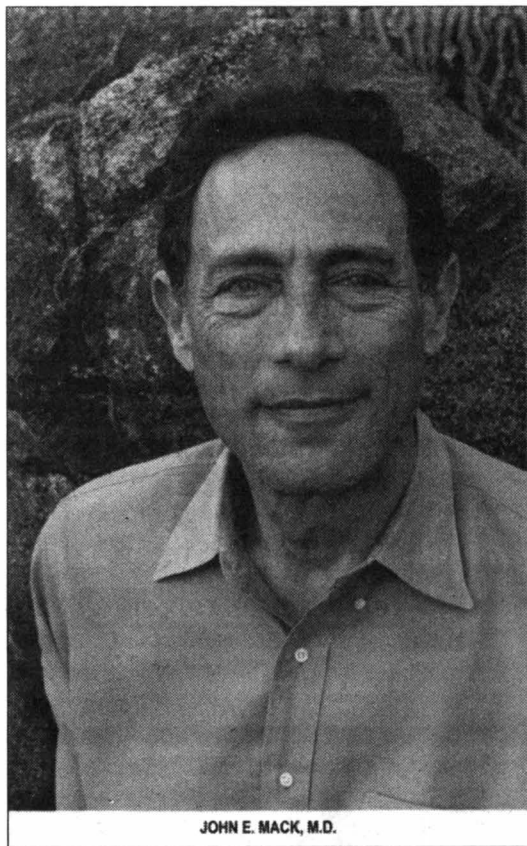
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JOHN E. MACK, M.D.

## Dr. John Mack - A Tribute

Dr John Mack did not believe that alien abductions were simply hoaxes, delusions and hallucinations. Based on his work counselling abductees, Mack arrived at the astounding conclusion that this was a phenomenon which was 'real', but which didn't so much have its basis in the physical universe as Henry Corbin's " imaginal realms", accessible only through a widening of conscious perception. This hypothesis is in stark opposition to the current scientific paradigm, which is based on the mechanistic assumption that consciousness is a by-product of a physical brain.

Needless to say, such opposition to orthodoxy comes with its price. Mack, who had previously won a Pulitzer Prize for his biography of T.E. Lawrence and was a respected Harvard psychiatrist, was lambasted by his colleagues and even investigated by Harvard. This despite his eloquent and detailed explanation of his hypothesis that the abduction phenomenon displayed clear patterns indicating some objective 'reality', and was worthy of further research. Mack's crime was that he challenged the dogma of physicalism. Not that he would have had it any other way, for he believed that it was important that we began to reclaim a science of the soul:

*in the focus on the material realm to the exclusion of the subtle realms, we have virtually rid the cosmos of nature, rid nature of spirit and,*

*in a sense, denied the existence of all life other than that which is physically observable here on earth...the Western world view, what Tulane philosopher Michael Zimmerman calls anthropomorphic humanism, has reduced reality largely to the manifest or physical world and puts the human mind or the human being at the top of the cosmic intellectual hierarchy, eliminating not only God but virtually all spirit from the cosmos. The phenomena that really shake up that world view are those that seem to cross over from the unseen world and manifest in the physical world.*

Mack didn't jump to this conclusion lightly. The hypothesis formed itself over several years of counselling abductees, perhaps part of the reason why he didn't seem ready for the orthodox onslaught against him - he was, as he puts it, a frog that died in gradually heating water, never noticing the impending danger. He also admits that the proposal of his extraordinary hypothesis took a great deal of challenging of my his own materialist scientific and clinical upbringing.

I don't know whether John Mack was right. But I appreciate his contribution to shaking us out of our narrow-minded, anthropomorphic thinking once in a while. John Mack was a scientist and skeptic in the true definition of those words, and his ability to challenge his own epistemological ideas shames all those who attacked him for his work on alien abductions. Indeed, he even welcomed the input of those challenging his hypothesis...

*For then if we can embrace the questions and polarities that the critiques represent, perhaps we can go to a deeper level of understanding instead of finding ourselves, as we tend to, in opposition to the people that will not take in what we are trying to communicate.*

The greatest tribute we can give to John Mack is to continue investigating his ideas with an open mind, in order that his legacy lives on. One of the few to challenge the mainstream scientific paradigm openly and with eloquence, others must fill the breach in his absence. Dr John Mack was a fine man and a true scientist - he will be sorely missed.

Those interested in Dr Mack's research are encouraged to visit the website for Passport to the Cosmos, which features a large number of essays, lectures and interviews. Further information can be found at the website of the John E. Mack Institute (<http://www.centerchange.org/>).

— reprinted from <http://www.dailygrail.com/node/view/487>

# Clinical and Political Witnessing: a Meeting with a Palestinian Psychiatrist

by John Mack, M.D.

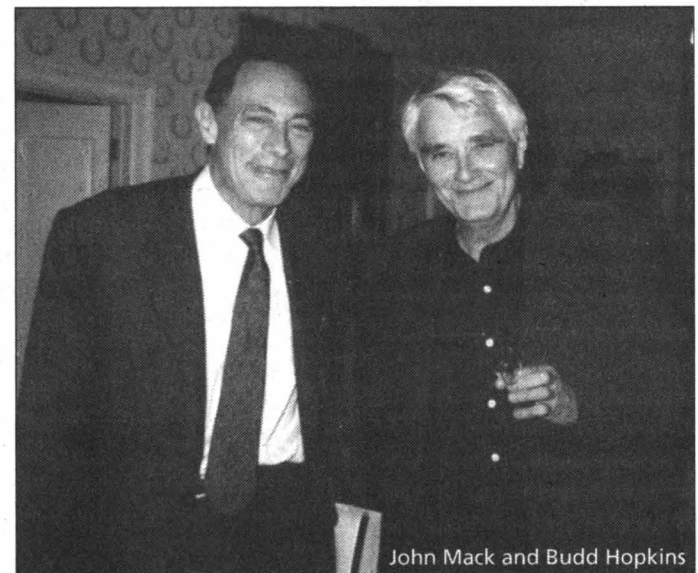
[Dr. John Mack submitted this essay to HopeDance about a year ago. I almost published it but because it deals with "alien abduction," I decided against it. When I learned of his death, I felt badly that I had become one of the censors that I so ridicule. So, this page is a memorial to John Mack that includes a Tribute, his article and a book review I had written and published in the July/August, 2000 (#23) issue of HopeDance. Also, we will be showing a film about his work called TOUCHED (see the film schedule in this issue.)]

Some years ago as I began my clinical work with people who have experienced what many describe as "alien encounters," I did not imagine that a central part of what I would learn would be how cultures lose opportunities to develop when the testimony of those whose experiences lie outside of what is generally endorsed is dismissed. In my 13 years of study, I have seen personally both the loss for the culture and the emotional and spiritual damage done to the witnesses themselves when their observations and insights are not valued or are altogether denied.

I have also been struck by the moral kinship between "experiencers" and witnesses of other kinds, such as those who have suffered human rights abuses. An example of solidarity of this kind came home to me in a recent meeting with Palestinian psychiatrist, colleague and friend, Eyad el-Sarraj. Dr. Eyad, as he is known, is now in his 50s. In 1990 he founded the Gaza Mental Health Center, which I was fortunate to have been able to visit near the time of its opening. Eyad has generously served a great many Palestinian and Israeli patients. He has been imprisoned by both the Palestinian and Israeli authorities for his stance on

human rights, which transcends the partisanship of the two sides. He has himself been tortured in prison. But he remains, in spite of the killing and maiming, the destroyed lives and torture he has witnessed, optimistic about life and the future. People wonder how he does so.

I spoke with him about the many difficulties I have had in communicating effectively the accounts of people who have had strange experiences, since these fall outside of the province that science and medicine can accept. Eyad compared this to the difficulty he and others confront in situations of torture, for there is often no way to "prove" that this has happened. The principle evidence, as in the case of alien encounter "experiencers," is the testimony of the victims, because the torturers have even learned not to leave marks. About a thousand people have come to Eyad's clinic and spoken to him of being tortured. This is powerful evidence, he says, but he notes that the political authorities act like the



John Mack and Budd Hopkins

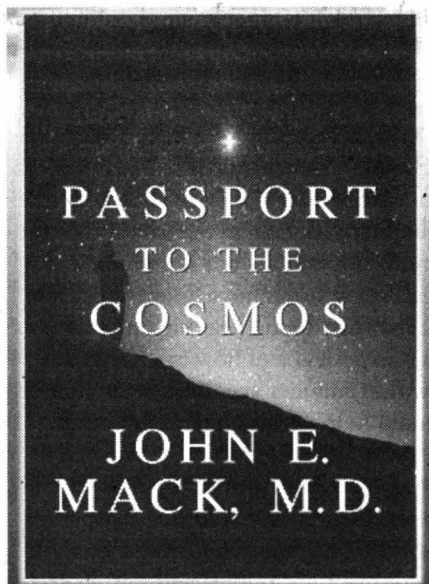
scientific establishment in their denial. Officials on both the Palestinian and Israeli sides deny that torture has occurred in order to appear as if they have respected human rights. Similarly, he noted, the scientific establishment denies reports that do not fit its worldview.

Eyad asserts, however, that the testimony of the victims is ultimately more powerful than any political position. I explained to him that the witnesses that came before the Harvard committee that investigated our work with abduction experiencers felt so intimidated that it was not possible for



Dr. Eyad

continued on page 15



## PASSPORT TO THE COSMOS: Human Transformation and Alien Encounters

by John Mack  
(Crown Publishers; \$24; 1999; 306 pp.)

After seeing a review of this book in the latest issue of IONS magazine, I had to get a copy. Not only do I enjoy a good laugh (usually from the conspiriologist and comic Robert Anton Wilson who wrote the review) but since I put my interest in alien abductions and UFOs on hold for five years, I thought it would be interesting to see what the latest research has come up with.

John Mack, Harvard Medical School professor of psychiatry and writer of repute (he received a Pulitzer prize for his biography of T.E. Lawrence), is not necessarily doing this research to win friends and gain influence (already a team of his associates at Harvard have created a commission to study his research). Aliens is not a subject that a professional writers or academics would take lightly for their careers are often at stake.

The subject has been covered more and more by respected journalists and academics in the past five years but the subject is fraught with complications that are still an enigma for many and grounds for ridicule for many more.

John Mack dealt with what the abductions were all about in his very fat 432 pages in his work ABDUCTIONS. Five years later he returns to the subject to inform us of its meaning for the numerous "experiencers," to cull common themes from what they have experienced and learned and to inform us the public as to what might be going on.

Mack does not get into the physical dimensions of the phenomenon, nor does he try to prove anything. His purpose is to bring forth the messages and the experiencers' transformations in a sincere and serious manner. Often times he will be moved by the experiencers reliving their various abduction experiences. Is this not real then? No longer do we find the word "hypnosis"

in the text; we see the word "relaxed communication" interjected as to what mode they are in to tell their stories.

And the stories are indeed unbelievable. Humans traveling through windows, being tunneled into different dimensions, seeing documentary videos showing the destruction of the Earth, participating in a project where aliens and humans are cross-breeding to create a hybrid species to survive the coming collapse.... Three new insights I have received from this book: 1) these people are going through human transformational journeys quite similar to shamanic journeys (and more research is needed in this field); 2) in indigenous cultures they have accepted alien encounters (as well as an understanding of spirit/matter cross-overs) within their religio-culture whereas in the west, spirit and matter are diametrically opposed, so anything spiritual manifesting into matter is always suspect; and 3) that these purported aliens are no longer attempting to go through the government avenues and are now relying on transforming individual citizens to take a stand against the destruction of the planet (i.e., many of the experiencers have become very active environmentalists).

A medicine man in South Africa, Credo Mutwa, tells John Mack bluntly what he learned in his abduction experience: "The entire Western civilization is based upon a blatant lie, the lie that we human beings are the cocks of the walk in the world, the lie that we human beings are the highest evolved forms in this world, and that we are alone and that beyond us there is nothing."

A provocative book, requiring an open mind to stretch us into becoming more familiar with the outrageous mysteries of reality and our peculiar time in it.

Bob Banner; reprinted from HopeDance #23.

Continued from page 14

the committee members to personally experience the power of what they had gone through. Eyad said that victims of torture are also often intimidated, in this case deliberately. Sometimes when he has asked victims to repeat their stories and sign sworn affidavits in the presence of a lawyer, he discovers that between the time of the initial meeting and the scheduled one with the lawyers the witnesses have been threatened into silence. They fear that the authorities will accuse them, or do something worse to them than what they have already been through. Eyad notes that the U.S. State Department accuses a number of countries of torture and of violating human rights. But their evidence is primarily the testimony of victims. Part of what allows Eyad to continue to be optimistic is what he calls, ironically, "the silent majority." People, he said, are, for the most part, loving. But it is the political and scientific establishments that twist the truth for their own ideological purposes.

The loss for a culture when people are prevented from telling important truths is inestimable. Witnessing is a sacred activity. A society can only grow through the

wisdom of shared experience; the harm done to a witness is harm done to everyone. Without the benefit of the truth that witnesses bring, a society may be unprepared to enter its own future. ○

John E. Mack, M.D., is a Pulitzer Prize-winning author and professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. He is the founder of the Department of Psychiatry at the Cambridge Hospital. His career has been devoted to exploring how our perceptions shape our relationships with one another and with the world. His study of the "human dimension" of alien encounters led him to consider the merits of an expanded notion of reality, one which allows for experiences that may seem impossible yet deeply touch people's lives. Dr. Mack was born in New York City and is an alumnus of Harvard Medical School and Oberlin College. He is a graduate of the Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute and is Board certified in child and adult psychoanalysis with over 40 years of clinical psychiatric education and experience. He is the author or co-author of 11 books, most recently a chapter in THE PSYCHOLOGY OF TERRORISM (2003), edited by Chris E. Stout, and PASSPORT TO THE COSMOS: Human Transformation and Alien Encounters (1999). For more info: [www.passporttothecosmos.com](http://www.passporttothecosmos.com), [www.centerchange.org](http://www.centerchange.org). He passed away on September 27, 2004.



### TOUCHED

A Film by Laurel Chiten; 65 Mins  
Touched is a documentary about people

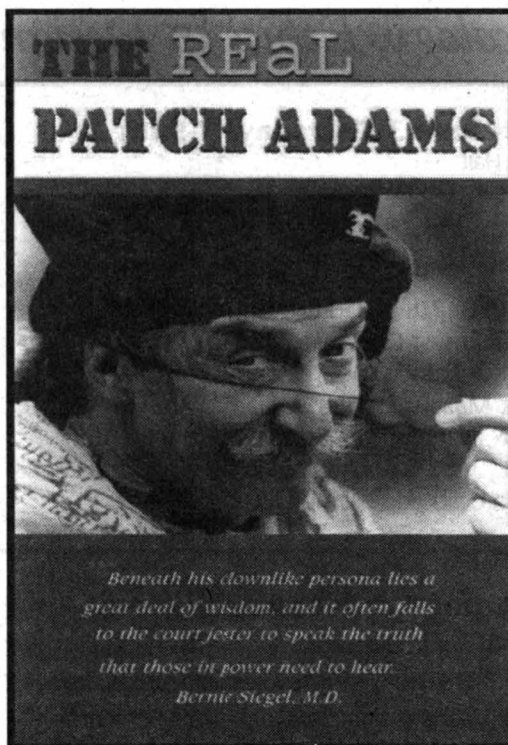
who believe they have had contact with aliens and John Mack, the Harvard psychiatrist who believes them.

Winner: Best Documentary-Female Eye Film Festival Toronto

"Touched offers a uniquely contemplative perspective on the alien abduction phenomenon [and] presents the 'experiencers' and their stories with sensitivity and without judgment." — Boston's Weekly Dig

Friday, April 22, 7pm in SLO

See more details in the insert in this issue.



*Beneath his downlike persona lies a great deal of wisdom, and it often falls to the court jester to speak the truth that those in power need to hear.*

Bernie Siegel, M.D.

Health Care For All – CA, San Luis Obispo Chapter and HopeDance Magazine present:

### ENVISIONING HUMANE AND AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE FOR ALL

An evening of films and discussion  
Featuring Judith Bourque's biographical documentary

## The Real Patch Adams

"Healing should be a loving human interchange, not a business."

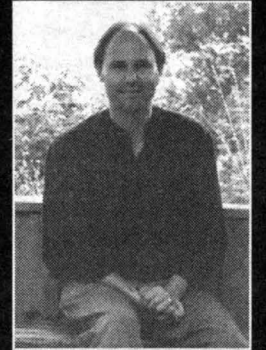
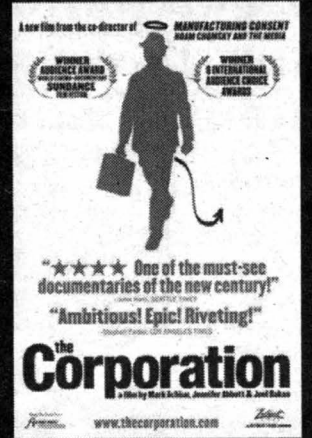
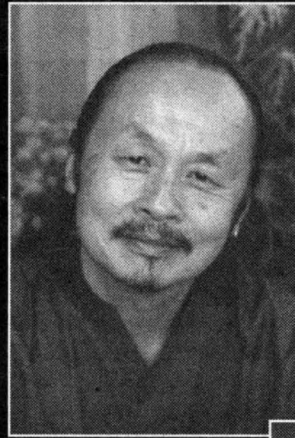
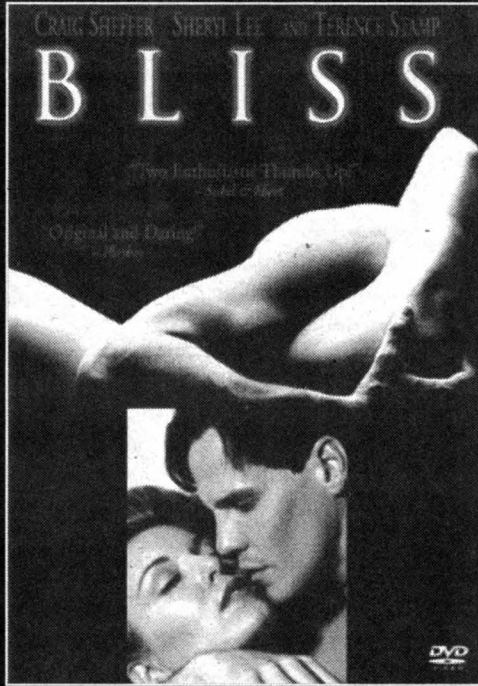
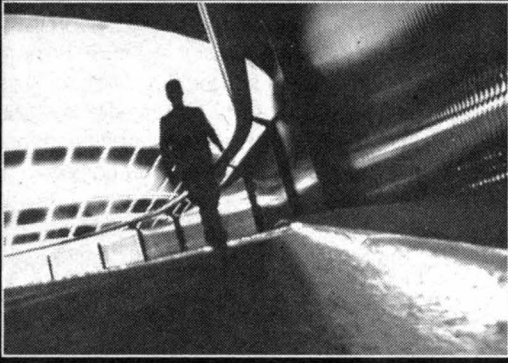
AND TWO SHORT FILMS

- The Canadian Single Payer Health System: A Model for Reform
- The California Health Insurance Reliability Act Single Payer Legislation in California

Friday • April 8 • 7 p.m. • \$5.00 suggested donation  
San Luis Obispo County Library • 995 Palm, San Luis Obispo

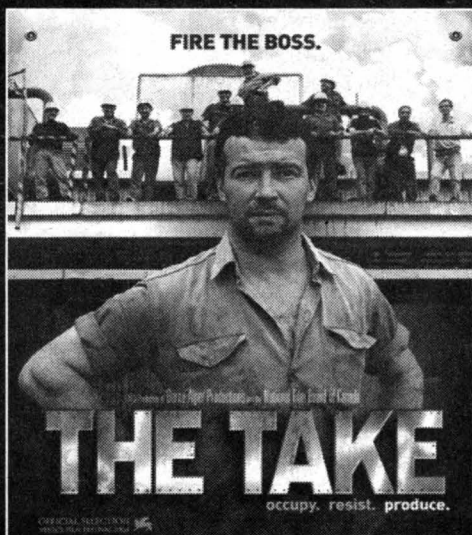
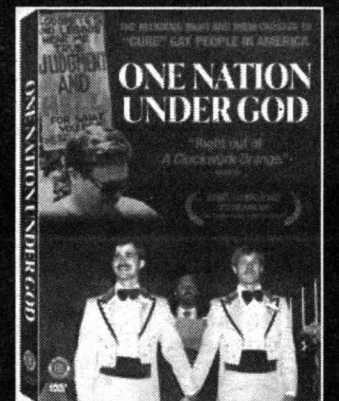
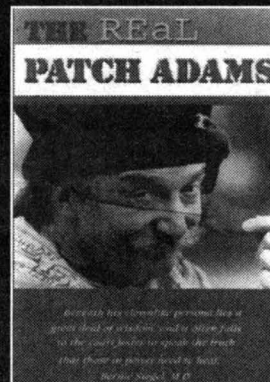
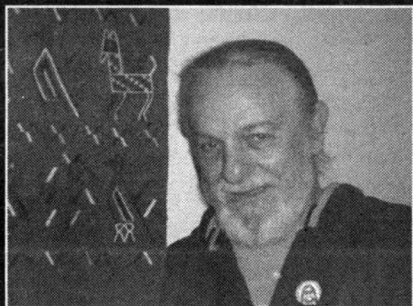
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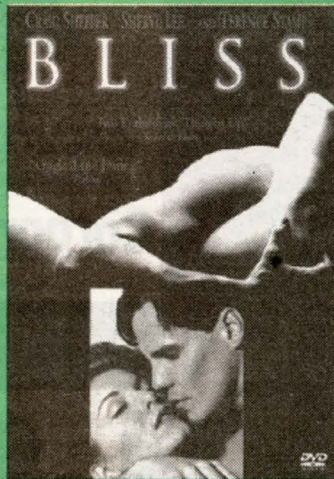
*HopeDance FiLMS  
presents  
a special insert...*

# Indy FiLMS, Slide-Show Presentations, & Talks in San Luis Obispo, Cambria & Santa Barbara



**Friday, March 11, 7pm Donations**  
**BLISS**

Directed by Lance Young, 1996  
 A troubled young wife (Sheryl Lee) and her repressed husband (Craig Sheffer) seek conventional therapy for their marital woes with no avail--until she secretly engages the services of an avant-garde Tantric sex guru (Terence Stamp). His advice leads the couple on a journey toward mutual trust and fulfillment, unearthing her buried memories of sexual abuse.



BLISS is a deeply sensual story about love, relationships and self-discovery written and directed by Lance Young.

Craig Sheffer, Sheryl Lee, Terence Stamp, and Spalding Gray star in this audaciously honest look at sexual intimacy and emotional risk. On his wedding day, Joseph (Craig Sheffer) nervously admits that his wife (Sheryl Lee) is not quite like other women. But his beautiful bride is more than just the "impulsive, compulsive, obsessive" woman he thinks he knows. And when Joseph discovers she is hiding troubling secrets, it sends them both on a sexual odyssey that will either destroy or redeem their relationship. Erasing all boundaries between sex, love, and commitment, "BLISS may be one of the most daring and explicit films ever made." --William Arnold, Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

**Sunday, March 13, 7pm; Donations**  
**Last Chance for Eden**

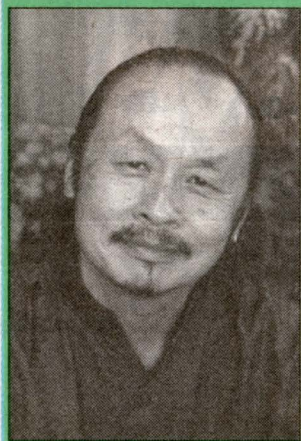
Directed by Lee Mun Wah, diversity trainer, communication specialist, community therapist, and director of the award-winning documentary Color of Fear.

Last Chance for Eden is a nationally acclaimed documentary about nine men

and women discussing the impact of racism on their lives in the workplace, in their personal relationships and within their families, and in their communities. In the course of their dialogue,

they also explore race relations and bi-cultural family dynamics.

If we are to make any progress in fostering a multi-cultural community we must



dialogue about how racism and white skin privilege impacts our lives. Individuals need to interact and learn from each other as first steps towards building relationships & community. This film will inspire viewers to engage in open & honest discussion so that healing the wounds of racism can begin.

Following the film Bailey Drechsler will facilitate an interactive dialogue on unlearning racism.

"This is the dialogue most of us fear, but hope will happen sometime in our lifetime." — Lee Mun Wah

**Wednesday, March 16, 7pm**  
 Donations / Talk/Presentation  
**Rejuvenating & Healing Miracles**

Featuring Cindy Sellers, Founder, Angel Farms, Keaau, Hawaii

It is no longer a luxury to keep our bodies clear of as many toxins as possible, but a vital necessity. There are numerous approaches to ridding the body of these invaders including fasting, chemical neutralizing agents like EDTA for lead, mercury and other heavy metal exposures and colonic hydrotherapy.

In her information rich presentation, Cindy Sellers will provide details of her own healing journey, explore important health issues, and answer audience questions on clearing the body of parasites, heavy metals, and more. For further information you may visit the Angel Farms website (<http://www.angelfarms.com>) or call Cindy or Shalona at 808-966-8581.

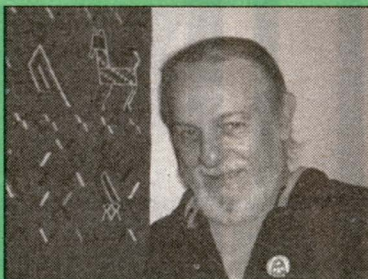


Friday, March 18, 7pm, Donations  
 A talk by Frank Kahl on

**"America's Addiction to War: What is it Costing You?"**

with Q&A plus a short 10min. film on "Economics of Empire."

Frank Kahl is a retired academic economist now living on the Central Coast; a college professor for 35 years; peace and justice activist; author and book reviewer. His favorite subjects include the USA war economy and The Long Term Structural Deficit Mess.



**Saturday, March 19th**, (after the pro-peace events in SLO), 5:00pm Donations  
**Arlington West**

Film by: Sally Marr and Peter Dudar  
 56 mins (2004)

Sally Marr and Peter Dudar interview more than sixty soldiers who have returned



from or are about to leave for Iraq, along with military families to produce a touching documentary.

Arlington West refers to "temporary cemeteries" that are constructed along the shores of the Pacific by Southern California "Veterans For Peace" groups. Over 1,500 wooden crosses and a flag covered coffin are meticulously laid out on the beaches on Sundays begging the public to acknowledge U.S. soldiers killed and the hidden cost of the Iraq war.

"Very moving. I wept." —Medea Benjamin

"I hope, for the sake of peace, that young people all over the country will see 'Arlington West' and come face to face with the consequences of war." —Howard Zinn

**Thursday, March 24, 7pm,**  
 Donations / A Talk with Bob Sachs  
**PEACEFUL HEART, COURAGEOUS ACTION**

Lessons for Conscious Engaged Activists from "The Buddha at War."

Author and educator, Robert Sachs, will present an evening devoted to looking at the spiritual principles in Buddhism that can applied to become more effective in social and political activism. Topics included in presentation:

- \* Prophecy of a Dark Age
- \* The Vision of Our Founding Fathers in The Age of Enlightenment
- \* Contemplations and Meditations to Strengthen Our Resolve
- \* Anger versus Wrathful Compassion
- \* and a Book signing.



**Friday, March 25, 7pm Donations**  
 Film and Q&As with Dr. Marie Moore, licensed clinical psychologist and president of PFLAG (Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays)

**ONE NATION UNDER GOD**

(1993); 83 min; Not Rated  
 Directed by: Teodoro Maniaci and Francine M. Rzeznik

One Nation Under God uses archival footage combined with interviews to take a look at the way religious and medical institutions treats and attempt to "cure" homosexuals. Methods of correcting the "disease" include makeovers for lesbians and football for gay men.

The film documents Exodus International, a Christian therapy organization that aims to turn gays into

ex-gays. The filmmakers pay a visit to an annual Exodus International conference where clients and organizers gather. Interviews are conducted with participants of the program. Special attention is given to two ex-founders Exodus, Michael Bussee and Gary Cooper, two men who went on to fall in love with each other and denounce the movement that they had helped developed.

One Nation Under God shows how the religious right and their warped ideologies as they seem to go against basic Christian principles in their effort to rid the world of homosexuality.

"Very funny! An excursion into a strange world. Truly bizarre!" — LA Reader

"Funny and fascinating! Right out of A Clockwork Orange!" — Variety

"Hilarious, surreal! A whirlwind history of the gay movement in America." — San Francisco Bay Guardian

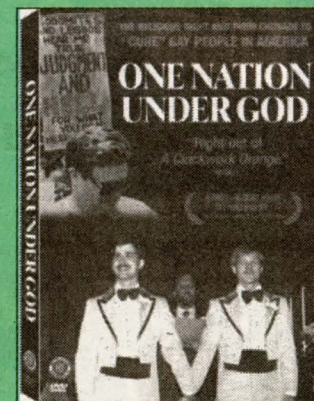
"Startling! An excellent film that no one should miss." — The Sentinel

**Saturday, March 26** (in Cambria only),  
 7pm at the Joslyn Center (950 Main St.)

**THE CORPORATION**

One hundred and fifty years ago, the corporation was a relatively insignificant entity. Today, it is a vivid, dramatic and pervasive presence in all our lives. The corporation is today's dominant institution. But history humbles dominant institutions. All have been crushed, belittled or absorbed into some new order. The corporation is unlikely to be the first

to defy history. In this complex and highly entertaining documentary, Mark Achbar, Jennifer Abbott and writer Joel Bakan examine the far-reaching repercussions of the corporation's increasing preeminence. This dynamite film is a timely, critical inquiry that invites CEOs, whistle-blowers, brokers, gurus, spies, players, pawns and pundits on a graphic and engaging quest to reveal the corporation's inner workings, curious history, controversial impacts and possible futures. THE CORPORATION charts the spectacular rise of an institution aimed at achieving specific economic goals as it also recounts victories against this apparently invincible force.  
 Best Feature Documentary 2004



Environmental Media Association Awards, Best Feature Length Documentary, Ecocinema International Film Festival, Rhodes NFB Best Documentary Award, Calgary International Film Festival Top Ten Films of the Year: Toronto International Film Festival Group Best Documentary and numerous others. go to [www.thecorporation.tv](http://www.thecorporation.tv) for more details.

**Thursday, March 31, 7pm**, Donations  
**Sick, Twisted, Funny and Politically Incorrect Video Shorts**

Former MoonRadio CEO Greg Junell



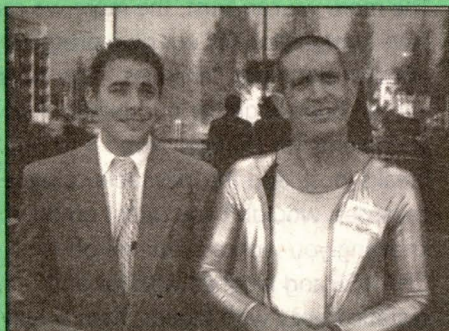
presents his 2 hour  
 Tiny Film Festival

**Friday, April 1, Fools Day, 7pm**  
 \$5 and \$10 Donation;  
 Fundraiser for the Critical Art Ensemble  
 Defense Fund ([www.caedefensefund.org](http://www.caedefensefund.org))

**The Yes Men**

84 min. (2004) plus extras if we wish.

It seems a prerequisite to being an anti-corporate globalization activist is having



a lack of power and influence within the political system, but it sure would be fun to pretend. Andy Bichlbaum and Mike Bonanno decided to do just that. After creating a fake WTO website they were delighted to see that people were asking questions and requesting speaking engagements. Not wanting to let an opportunity like this pass, they assumed the identity of a World Trade Organization spokesperson and were booked at unsuspecting organizations and television programs. Let the fun begin.

Armed with absurd PowerPoint presentations and thrift-store suits they make stops in Finland, Australia and New York to give their carefully crafted, yet definitely ridiculous, presentations designed to expose the cruelty in the WTO's "might equals right" policies. Amazingly, the groups actually believe that the presentations are legitimate, raising some serious questions concerning their mentality.

"The Yes Men" is without a doubt one of the funniest political documentaries to date and does not fail to expose the

problems associated with corporate globalization.

Directors: Chris Smith, Sarah Price, Dan Ollman  
 Starring: Andy Bichlbaum, Mike Bonanno

Awards:  
 Best Documentary-US Comedy Arts Festival  
 Official Selection-Sundance Film Festival  
 Audiences Choice-Nantucket Film Festival

"Uproarious" — LA Weekly  
 "Subversive and Diabolically Funny" — Rolling Stone  
 "Hilarious! Not to be Missed!" TV Guide  
 "Has to be seen to be believed! Thumbs up!" — Roger Ebert

**Thursday, April 7, 7pm** Donations  
**TIBET: Cry of the Snow Lion**

2003 ; 104 mins  
 Directed & Photographed by: Tom Peosay

Cry of the Snow Lion is a documentary ten years in the making, composed of footage taken during nine voyages through Tibet, India and Nepal.

Dramatic imagery is used to transport the audience into this rarely seen region, "the rooftop of the world". The film reveals everything from sacred rituals performed in remote monasteries to the brothels and slums of the holy city Lhasa. Most importantly, Tibet's troubled recent past are documented during powerful personal stories and interviews.

The audience will experience unparalleled footage from Tibet along with a collection of archived and underground film that has never been assembled in a single film.

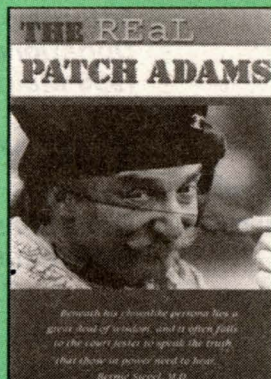
"Documentaries can be informative, entertaining and provocative, but rare is the documentary that makes you feel so engaged (and enraged) that it prompts you to action somehow. Tibet: Cry of the Snow Lion is that kind of film." — Jonathan Curiel, SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

"A more concise and affecting summation of the Tibetan crisis would be hard to imagine." — Dave Kehr, NEW YORK TIMES

Audience Award-Santa Barbara International Film Festival, Bahamas International Film Festival

**Friday, April 8, 7pm**  
 \$5 and \$10 Donations  
 Fundraiser for He Health Care for All chapter of SLO Films and Discussion  
 Judith Bourque's biographical documentary  
**THE REAL PATCH ADAMS**

plus two short films about Canadian insurance and



Single Payer legislation in California

**Saturday, April 9, 7pm** Donations  
**Palestinians and Jews in Dialogue**

A 12-year-old Jewish-Palestinian Living Room Dialogue Group on the San Francisco Peninsula is the oldest in North America (preparing for its 154th meeting). They keep learning to change "enemies" to partners, and ignorance to understanding of both people's narratives.

They have helped birth many dozens of new Dialogue groups across the nation and on campuses, providing free printed guidelines and videos to over 2,000 individuals in 825 institutions, 564 cities, 42 states, and 39 countries. They have been interviewed by CNN MSNBC, NPR, and often by their local print and broadcast media.

Co-founders Libby and Len Traubman will facilitate the evening that includes audience interaction. They just returned from convening in Kalamazoo, Mich. the first-ever meeting of leaders of the now-dozen North American camps that bring together Palestinian and Jewish youth from overseas.

**Thursday, April 14, 7pm**

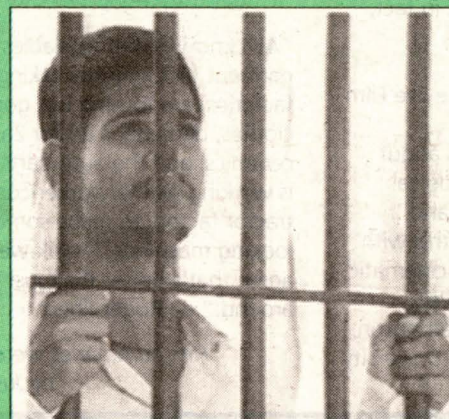
Donations  
**DOING TIME, DOING VIPASSANA**

A Karuna Film (1997)  
 A film by Israeli filmmakers: Ayelet Menahemi and Eilona Ariel  
 52 mins

Vipassana is an ancient meditation technique which helps people control their lives and bring them towards their own "good".  
 Kiran Bedi

is the former Inspector General of Prisons in New Delhi who dedicated herself to bringing this form of meditation into the infamous Tihar Prison.

The film follows the stories of prison inmates turning their lives around, learning that their prison experience can be the beginning of a new and better life. The success in the Tihar Prison was so obvious that the Indian government has decided to implement Vipassana throughout their prison system. Doing Time, Doing Vipassana begs the question, how could Vipassana benefit the United States, a country that locks up a higher percentage of its citizens than any other?



Won the prestigious Golden Spire Award at the 1998 San Francisco International Film Festival. They said:

"In giving Doing Time, Doing Vipassana its top honor, the jury for the category stated: "The jury was moved by this insightful and poignant exposition on Vipassana. The teaching of this meditation as a transformation device has many implications for people everywhere, providing the cultural, social and political institutions can embrace and support its liberating possibility."

DTDV most recently won a "Silver Plaque" award in the INTERCOM - The International Communications Film & Video Competition, in Chicago.

**Friday, April 15, 7pm** Donations  
 Presentation/Talk with Frank Kahl on  
**SOCIAL SECURITY, WALL STREET, AND THE BIG LIE**

Frank Kahl is a retired academic economist now living on the Central Coast; a college professor for 35 years; peace and justice activist; author and book reviewer. His favorite subjects include the USA war economy and The Long Term Structural Deficit Mess.

**Thursday, April 21, 7pm** Donations  
**SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTING INVESTING WITH YOUR VALUES**

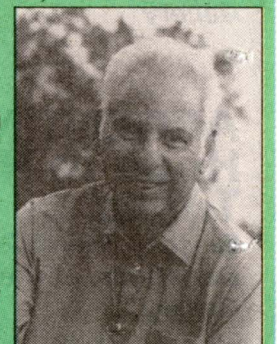
by JACK A BRILL with Wes Roe and Christopher Peck

Socially Responsible Investing (SRI) is the way to invest applying your personal values to both make money and help make a better world. At the personal level SRI gives one the sense of alignment and integrity.

SRI creates positive change in corporations, the environment and in communities. It is an important tool to use in the current political climate in the United States. SRI works from inside the economic

system to bring about environmental and cultural improvements. SRI helps to shape corporate policy and behavior.

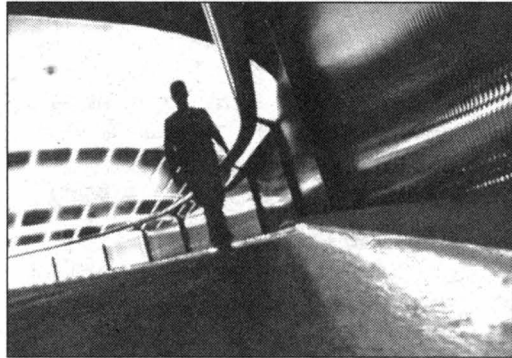
JACK A. BRILL, co-founder of Natural Investment Services Inc, is a Registered Investment Advisor who has specialized in Socially Responsible Investments since 1985. He is co-author of Investing With Your Values: Making Money and Making a Difference (Bloomberg Press 1999, New Society Publishers 2000) and Investing From



the Heart: The Guide to Socially Responsible Investments and Money Management, (Crown Publishers 1992, 1993). He is a spokesman for socially responsible investing and has often been featured in all forms of public media. Jack created the NIS Social Rating SM which ranks socially responsible mutual funds on their level of social activism. Permaculture Credit Union enthusiasts Christopher Peck and Wes Roe will share their knowledge as well.

**Friday, April 22, 7pm Donations**  
**TOUCHED**

A Film by Laurel Chiten  
65 Mins



Touched is a documentary about people who believe they have had contact with aliens and John Mack, the Harvard psychiatrist who believes them.

The documentary is not an effort to prove or disprove whether the alleged alien contacts ever took place. Rather it is a look at the human experience and how people respond when the unexplained intrudes into their lives. "I now call myself agnostic. I am not convinced that these people have been visited by "aliens," but I do believe that something profound has happened to them. And maybe, just maybe, everything they have described is, in fact, completely true."

Winner: Best Documentary-Female Eye Film Festival Toronto

"Touched opens up questions about the complexity of human psychological experience, human relationships, and scientific investigation. It does all this with sensitivity, humor, and impressive cinematic flair. Highly recommended for a lively classroom discussion." —Anne Harrington, Ph.D., History of Science, Harvard University

"Touched offers a uniquely contemplative perspective on the alien abduction phenomenon [and] presents the 'experiencers' and their stories with sensitivity and without judgment." — Boston's Weekly Dig

**Friday April 29, 7pm, Donations**  
**THE TAKE**

A film by: Avi Lewis and Naomi Klein  
87 mins (2004; new release)

After Argentina's economic collapse of 2001 the country's previous working class is in crisis. Surrounded by huge unemployment numbers and empty factories, 30 unemployed auto-parts factory workers occupy their idle factory and end up lobbying their government to legalize new cooperatives.

"Director/producer Avi Lewis (Counterspin) and writer/producer and renowned author Naomi Klein (No Logo) take viewers inside the lives of ordinary visionaries, as they reclaim their work, their dignity and their democracy." - Official website

"This grass-roots solution is revolutionary, in the most basic sense of the word, and the filmmakers want to celebrate it as much as they explain it..." -- Sean Axmaker, SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER

"Detailing the workers' efforts with a skill and urgency that suggests that the subject matter could well provide the basis for a fictional treatment, the filmmakers turn what could have been dry subject matter into compelling, inspirational drama."

—Frank Scheck, HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"All I know is that the ladies at the garment factory [after taking over the factories] are turning out good-looking clothes, demand is up for Zanon ceramics, and the auto parts factory is working with a worker-controlled tractor factory to make some good-looking machines. I think we can all agree that's better than just sitting around." — Roger Ebert

Film summaries were compiled by Justin Popov.

# Why are we showing FiLMS?

If you forget about what films we are showing, you can either call 544-9663 or go to the website that has clear details about what we are showing in SLO and Santa Barbara and Cambria.

Also, if you are an organization that wants to do something similar, show a film, do a fundraiser, gather people together for a specific cause with a film, let us help you or work with you.

Since we progressives are losing the battle in the U.S., we need to do whatever we can to create the broadest of coalitions among the progressive community.

We are trying to do that with FiLMS, with the peace people, with the health insurance reform people, with the Separation of Church and State folks, with the gay and lesbian community, the Middle East Peace people, the UFO/Alien/coverup people, the Sustainability people, the anti-corporate crowd,

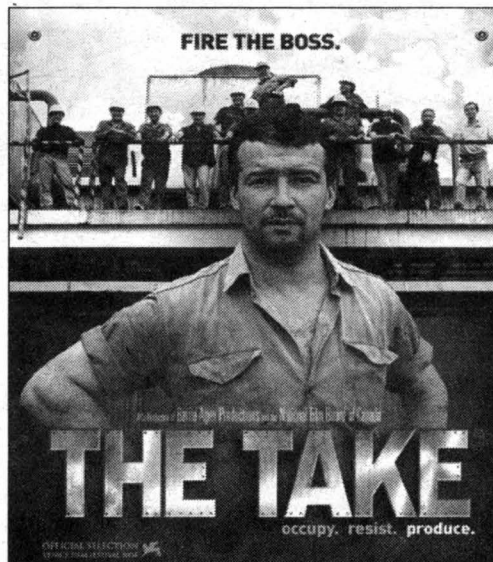
the anti-Bush cabal folks, the socially responsible investment (SRIs) people, the animation laugh-your-ass-off people, the Engaged Buddhist people, people who oppose racism in the work place, the sex positive happy erotic people, the doomsayers who think we have no time, the mediators who seek to change our language and perceptions of the "other," the codepink people... and on and on...

As I've stated before, there is no "choir." We are a diverse group of progressives who need to continually listen and learn from each other so we can grow, expand and move beyond single-issue, complaint-based activism.

What better place to hang out with progressives, to not only talk about the films, but to talk about the action that is necessary; to help each other out with specific effective actions rather than reinvent the wheel, to laugh our asses off, to cry amidst a darkened crowd of open people, to move our anger into purposeful action...

The more we can trust, the more we can have compassion for our own progressive allies let alone our "enemies," the more we can bring together our unique skills and talents for change... even if all hell breaks loose and the inevitable collapse collapses, wouldn't you rather go down knowing you worked your ass off for CHANGE and laughed with joy and ecstatic frenzy with friends, than simply withering under the weight of despair and dying from quiet desperation? ○

Bob Banner



## FiLMS in Santa Barbara

### THE YES MEN

Tuesday, March 15, 7pm;  
Donations, at the Faulkner Gallery

### ARGENTINA: Hope in Hard Times

Tuesday, March 29th, 7pm,  
Donations, at the Faulkner Gallery

## TIBET: Cry of the Snow Lion

Tuesday, April 12th, 7pm,  
Donations, at the Faulkner Gallery

### TOUCHED

Monday, April 25th, 7pm,  
Donations, at the Faulkner Gallery

SEE DETAILS IN THIS INSERT ABOUT THE FILMS!!! or go online at [www.hopedance.org...](http://www.hopedance.org...) or call 544-9663

## FiLMS in Cambria

### THE CORPORATION

Saturday, March 26, 7pm; \$5  
Donations, at the Joslyn Center (950 Main)

### THE YES MEN

Saturday, April 9, 7pm; \$5  
Donations, at the Joslyn Center (950 Main)

## TIBET: Cry of the Snow Lion

Saturday, April 30, 7pm;  
\$5 Donations, at the Joslyn Center (950 Main)

SEE DETAILS IN THIS INSERT ABOUT THE FILMS!!!



Argentina-Hope in Hard Times

# FiLMS in SLO, Cambria & Santa Barbara



**THE YES MEN**

**HopeDance MEDiA**  
presents  
In SLO at the SLO Library (Osos and Palm streets) FiLMS, slide shows and talks

*Cosponsored by CodePink, Information Press, Sierra Club, Green Party*

Friday, March 11, 7pm Donations  
**BLISS**

Sunday, March 13, 7pm; Donations  
**Last Chance for Eden**

Wednesday, March 16, 7pm Donations / Talk/Presentation  
**Rejuvenating & Healing Miracles**

Featuring Cindy Sellers, Founder, Angel Farms, Keaau, Hawaii

Friday, March 18, 7pm, Donations  
A talk by Frank Kahl on  
**"America's Addiction to War: What is it Costing You?"**

with Q&A plus a short 10min. film on "Economics of Empire."

Saturday, March 19th, (after the pro-peace events in SLO), 5:00pm Donations  
**Arlington West**

Thursday, March 24, 7pm, Donations

A Talk with Bob Sachs  
**PEACEFUL HEART, COURAGEOUS ACTION**

Lessons for Conscious Engaged Activists from "The Buddha at War."

Friday, March 25, 7pm Donations  
Film and Q&As with Dr. Marie Moore, licensed clinical psychologist and president of PFLAG (Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays)  
**ONE NATION UNDER GOD**

Thursday, March 31, 7pm, Donations  
**Sick, Twisted, Funny and Politically Incorrect Video Shorts**

Former MoonRadio CEO Greg Junell presents his 2 hour Tiny Film Festival

Friday, April 1, Fools Day, 7pm  
\$5 and \$10 Donation;  
Fundraiser for the Critical Art Ensemble Defense Fund ([www.caedefensefund.org](http://www.caedefensefund.org))  
**THE YES MEN**

Thursday, April 7, 7pm Donations  
**TIBET: Cry of the Snow Lion**

Friday, April 8, 7pm  
\$5 and \$10 Donations  
Fundraiser for The Health Care for All chapter of SLO  
Films and Discussion

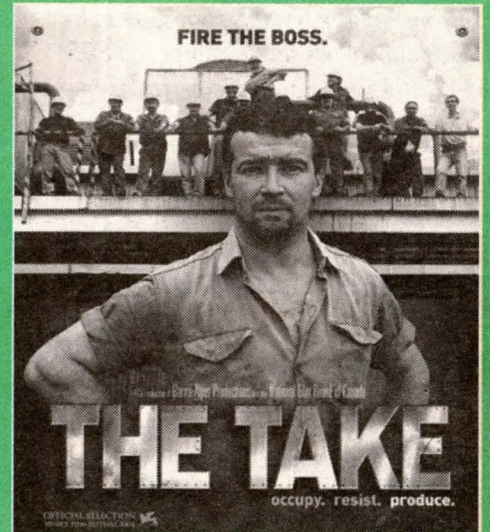
Judith Bourque's biographical documentary  
**THE REAL PATCH ADAMS**  
plus two short films about Canadian insurance and Single Payer legislation in California

Saturday, April 9, 7pm Donations, A Talk/Presentation  
**Palestinians and Jews in Dialogue**

Thursday, April 14, 7pm Donations  
**DOING TIME, DOING VIPASSANA**

Friday, April 15, 7pm Donations  
Presentation/Talk with Frank Kahl on  
**SOCIAL SECURITY, WALL STREET, AND THE BIG LIE**

Thursday, April 21, 7pm Donations  
**SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTING: INVESTING WITH YOUR VALUES**  
by JACK A BRILL with Wes Roe and Christopher Peck



Friday, April 22, 7pm Donations  
**TOUCHED**

Friday April 29, 7pm, Donations  
**THE TAKE** (the ONLY show)

## CAMBRIA:

(at the Joslyn Center; 950 Main; 7pm \$5 Donations)

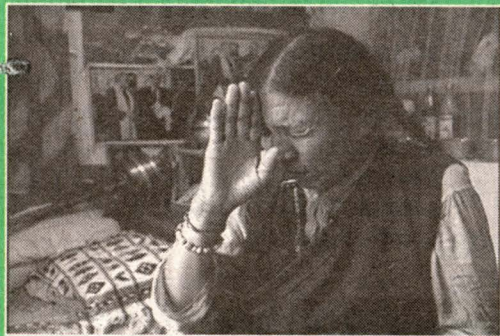
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Saturday, April 9: **THE YES MEN**

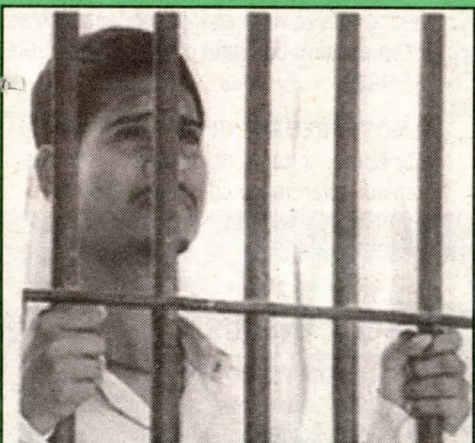
Saturday, April 30: **TIBET: Cry of the Snow Lion**

**For Santa Barbara FiLMS at the Faulkner Gallery please go to page 24.**

**For more details see the insert in this issue or go online at [www.hopedance.org](http://www.hopedance.org) or call 544-9663.**



**TIBET: CRY OF THE SNOW LION**



**DOING TIME, DOING VIPASSANA**



**TOUCHED**



## Creating the Future: Ecology, Ethics and Design Institute of Reverential Ecology Third Annual Retreat

April 29-May 1 -- Zaca Lake, 8000 Foxen Canyon Road, Los Olivos, CA -- more info: [www.reverentialecology.org](http://www.reverentialecology.org) -- 805.565-2321

### Faculty will include:

Nandini Iyer, Lecturer Emeritus, UCSB, Co-Founder of the Institute of World Culture, Santa Barbara

John Knott, Architect, Designer, Philosopher

Satish Kumar, Editor, Resurgence Magazine

Francis Moore Lappé, Small Planet Institute

Ocean Robbins, Environmental Youth Leader

Elisabet Sahtouris, Living Systems Design Theorist, Author

Vandana Shiva, Author, Activist, Founder: Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology

Charlene Spretnak, Professor at California Institute of Integral Studies, Author of Missing Mary

Michael Tobias, President and Founder of Commonweal, MacArthur Fellow, Author

Mary Evelyn Tucker, Professor of Religion at Bucknell University, Author

Adam Wolpert, Founder of Occidental Arts and Ecology Center, Artist, Activist