



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**WORLD PREMIERE OF GROUNDBREAKING DOCUMENTARY  
*PEACEABLE KINGDOM: THE JOURNEY HOME*  
AT BOULDER'S MOONDANCE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL  
Saturday, Sept. 26th , 7 PM at the Dairy Center for the Arts**

**Award-winning filmmakers Jenny Stein and James LaVeck offer a rare glimpse into the moral struggles of farmers and the emotional lives of farm animals in this stirring story of awakening conscience**

*Filmmakers and subjects are available to be interviewed upon request.  
A trailer of the film can be viewed at [www.peaceablekingdomfilm.org](http://www.peaceablekingdomfilm.org)*

**Boulder, CO** — Director Jenny Stein and Producer James LaVeck, whose documentaries have taken home top awards from numerous film festivals around the world, have found a warm audience for their work in Colorado. Their first documentary, *The Witness*, had its PBS broadcast premiere on Denver's KBDI in 2000 and won both the Best Documentary and Best of Festival awards at the Crested Butte Reel Fest. The Durango Film Festival screened another of their films in 2005, and shortly thereafter, Stein was invited to Colorado Springs to present her work at the Rocky Mountain Women's Film Festival.

**So it is fitting that Stein and LaVeck will bring their newest film to Colorado for its World Premiere screening.** *Peaceable Kingdom: The Journey Home* will debut at the Moondance International Film Festival in Boulder on Saturday, September 26th (7 PM, Dairy Center for the Arts), followed by Q&A with the filmmakers and one of the documentary's primary subjects, former farmer Harold Brown.

*Peaceable Kingdom: The Journey Home* is a 78-minute documentary focused on the emotional lives of farm animals as well as the journey of conscience experienced by several farmers in the process of reconsidering their relationship to these animals. "Our goal," says Director Jenny Stein, "was to combine an intimate portrait of animal lives with an equally sensitive exploration of a seldom-discussed moral struggle experienced by many people growing up in farm culture."

Also portrayed is the riveting story of a humane police officer who strives against overwhelming odds to help farm animals in need. Rare footage from dramatic animal rescues vividly depict the individuality and familial bonds of farm animals.

**The film's focus on animal behavior is due, in part, to the influence of Dr. Marc Bekoff, Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Colorado, Boulder.** "I'm thrilled Marc will be attending the premiere," says producer James LaVeck. "Several years ago he advised Jenny and me to let the animals 'speak' to the audience directly in the universal language of behavior, which is far more understandable to us humans than many of us may realize."

"I felt 'whole' after watching the film," wrote one college student at a test screening. "It made me

*(Continued on next page)*

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feel larger than myself, like I am a part of something bigger." Another student wrote, "This film reminds me to live with heartfelt connections to animals, people and the earth."

**"Peaceable Kingdom: The Journey Home truly is a journey of inspiration; a journey to an enlightened consciousness," says Moondance founder and executive director Elizabeth English.** "This important film, though disturbing at times, was selected for its premiere screening at the 2009 Moondance International Film Festival for its imagery, humanitarian ethic and encouraging narrative." *Peaceable Kingdom: The Journey Home* is an award finalist, with winners to be announced in the coming week.

**On Sunday, September 27th, in conjunction with the Moondance Film Festival, the filmmakers will offer a follow-up presentation titled "Being the Change,"** from 4-6 PM at the Fiske Planetarium, followed by a catered reception. This presentation will include inspirational talks by producer James LaVeck and film subject Harold Brown as well as a sneak peek screening of a short film by LaVeck and Stein called *All the Difference in the World: A Journey of Conscience*, about one of the largest animal rescue efforts in US history. Tickets to this event (\$15) and to the world premiere screening (\$10) can be purchased in advance through the Moondance Film Festival's web site, [www.moondancefilmfestival.com](http://www.moondancefilmfestival.com)

*Peaceable Kingdom: The Journey Home* will continue its film festival run with screenings this Fall at the Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival, the Ojai-Ventura International Film Festival, the Orlando Film Festival and the St. Louis International Film Festival.

#### **About James LaVeck and Jenny Stein (filmmakers)**

The documentaries of Jenny Stein and James LaVeck have been recognized by film festival juries and audience members for their uncompromising yet compassionate portrayal of the interplay between what is most troubling in human society with what is most inspiring in human nature. Director Stein shoots, edits and scores Tribe of Heart films, working with meticulous craftsmanship to merge the up-front authenticity of documentary with the fluid emotional dynamics usually associated with dramatic filmmaking. LaVeck's unique interviewing style recreates the experience of an extended late-night conversation with a trusted friend, the kind of one-to-one sharing that can lead to emotional and intellectual breakthroughs. Stein and LaVeck's documentaries exploring the journey of awakening conscience have appeared in 70 festivals around the world, where they have won 14 top awards. Their work has been endorsed by Dr. Jane Goodall, and supported by radio personality Paul Harvey and actors James Cromwell, Alicia Silverstone and William Baldwin. Their first film, *The Witness*, has been translated into 11 languages, including Russian and Chinese.

#### **About Harold Brown (documentary subject attending premiere)**

A fifth-generation farmer from Michigan, Harold Brown worked in animal agriculture for half his life. In 2008, he founded a charitable organization called Farmkind, "where everyone can come to learn about issues concerning our food, how it is produced, and the many complex connections it has to our world and our lives." In *Peaceable Kingdom: The Journey Home*, Harold shares his remarkable quest to resolve the lingering conflict between his natural affinity for the animals under his care and the role he played in their untimely deaths. "The amount of courage it takes to examine the basic assumptions that you've carried since childhood," says Harold in the opening moments of the film, "and to question those, and then find that there is another way to be in the world, and then to follow that vision, that dream -- it's really a joyous thing, it's going home."