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AWARD-WINNING FILM ABOUT FARMERS TRANSFORMING THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO ANIMALS HAS CHICAGO PREMIERE AT PEACE ON EARTH FILM FEST

Saturday, Feb. 27 at 7:15 PM at the Chicago Cultural Center's Claudia Cassidy Theatre followed by Q&A with filmmakers Jenny Stein & James LaVeck, and film subject Harold Brown

A stirring story of awakening conscience, *Peaceable Kingdom: The Journey Home* offers a rare glimpse into both the moral struggles of farmers and the emotional lives of farm animals

Filmmakers available for interview upon request. Film trailer at www.peaceablekingdomfilm.org



Chicago, IL — Award-winning filmmakers Jenny Stein and James LaVeck will be in Chicago later this month to present their newest film, *Peaceable Kingdom: The Journey Home*, at the Peace on Earth Film Festival, held at the Chicago Cultural Center. Joining them for Q&A after the screening will be Harold Brown, a former beef farmer from Michigan whose life-changing story is featured in the 78-minute documentary. This event is free and open to the public.

Peaceable Kingdom: The Journey Home, which premiered last Fall at the Moondance International Film Festival where it won Best Documentary, focuses 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. Moondance founder Elizabeth English said the film "truly is a journey of inspiration; a journey to an enlightened consciousness."

"Our goal," says LaVeck, "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 struggles 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. "We wanted to let the animals 'speak' to the audience directly through the universal language of behavior," says Stein, "which is far more understandable to we humans than many of us may realize."

"This film reminds me to live with heartfelt connections to animals, people and the earth," wrote one viewer on a comment card following the film. "This is by far the best film on our modern agricultural system, and an alternative view, that I have ever seen," wrote another.

The film will be showing at the Claudia Cassidy Theatre in the Chicago Cultural Center on Saturday, February 27 at 7:15 PM. The program begins with three short films, followed by *Peaceable Kingdom: The Journey Home*, a feature-length documentary. Since admission is free, people are encouraged to arrive early if they want to be sure to have a seat.

About director Jenny Stein and producer James LaVeck

Stein and LaVeck are the co-founders of Tribe of Heart, a nonprofit production company that produces life-changing, award-winning films about the journey of awakening conscience. Their documentaries have screened at 70 film festivals around the world, winning 14 top awards. Their first documentary, *The Witness*, which is now distributed in 12 different languages, was described by Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist Howard Rosenberg as "one man's truth that cries out for mass exposure... may be the most important and persuasive film about animals ever made" (*Los Angeles Times*). Stein and LaVeck's films have been broadcast on PBS, endorsed by Dr. Jane Goodall, and supported by radio personality Paul Harvey as well as actors James Cromwell, Alicia Silverstone and William Baldwin. Learn more at www.tribeofheart.org

About the Peace on Earth Film Festival

The Peace on Earth Film Festival (POEFF) was established to celebrate and encourage the work of independent films from around the world on the themes of peace, nonviolence, social justice and an eco-balanced world. Through the power of motion pictures, the non-profit POEFF endeavors to enlighten and empower individuals, families and communities to step out of the ignorance of conflict, violence and divisiveness into the light of communication, compassion and understanding.

This year's festival runs Feb. 26 thru 28 at the Chicago Cultural Center. All screenings are free and open to the public. Learn more at www.peaceonearthfilmfestival.org

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