



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**WHY DO OPPRESSIVE GOVERNMENTS FIRST TRY TO SILENCE ARTISTS?
CAN ART TEMPER VIOLENCE WHEN POLITICS AND REASON FAIL? STO-
RIES INCLUDE A CHINESE ARTIST RISKING IT ALL AND AN AUSTRALIAN
ART CURATOR WHO HAS SUSPECTED THAT ART HAS A PROFOUND
ABILITY TO BREAK THROUGH THE VICIOUS RAGE, THAT NARROWS
MINDS, TO CREATE CALMING INSIGHTS**

**AS THE 22nd UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION FILM FESTIVAL
CONTINUES ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23rd
AT THE NINTH STREET INDEPENDENT FILM CENTER
IN SAN FRANCISCO**

THE OTHER BORDER (US)

High school student Gerardo Hernandez—raised in the US since six months of age—was one of over one-hundred undocumented workers arrested by ICE in Ohio on June 5th, 2018. Gerardo spent almost two months in prison before being released and is now scheduled to be deported in early 2020. *The Other Border* is his American story, told through intimate interviews with Gerardo and his sister, Karime, shot exclusively on 8mm and 16mm film. Directed and produced by Justin Zimmerman. 7:00pm. **Filmmakers Present.**

CHINA'S ARTFUL DISSIDENT (Australia/China/France/US)

On the 30th anniversary of the June 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre, *China's Artful Dissident* presents a Chinese political artist in exile. Inspired by Tank Man—the lone protestor who stared down a convoy of Red Army tanks in Tiananmen—the artist travels the globe meeting survivors and fellow dissidents who share powerful first-hand testimonies. Like Banksy, the artist remains incognito, but unlike Banksy, his life and that of his family are at stake, as the Chinese authorities close in on his identity. Directed by Danny Ben-Moshe. 7:15pm.

CAN ART STOP A BULLET: WILLIAM KELLY'S BIG PICTURE

(Australia/Ireland/South Africa/US/Vietnam)

The fear that gripped the world during the Cold War is creating a familiar chill again. Rational voices are either ignored, mocked or attacked. These restraining voices are often the voices of art. Why do oppressive governments first try to silence artists? Can art temper violence when politics and reason fails? Can art stop bullets? Throughout his life, William Kelly has suspected that art has a profound ability to break through the vicious rage, that narrows minds, to create calming insights. Directed by Mark Street. 8:20pm. **Filmmakers Present.**

For the full program, press material, photos and other details visit www.unaff.org

The award winning UNAFF (the United Nations Association Film Festival) held annually in October at Stanford, Palo Alto, East Palo Alto and San Francisco, now in its 22nd year has grown to be one of the oldest and most respected documentary film festivals in the United States. UNAFF was originally conceived to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It was founded by Stanford educator and film critic Jasmina Bojic.

In 2014 the ICFT (International Council for Film, Television and Audiovisual Communication of UNESCO) presented the UNESCO Fellini Medal to Jasmina Bojic, Founder and Executive Director of UNAFF, in recognition of her exceptional contribution in promoting the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights through the art of documentary film.