THE GLOBAL FILM INITIATIVE ANNOUNCES TWO NEW TITLES TO DEBUT ON DVD FROM THE PRESTIGIOUS GLOBAL LENS FILM SERIES

“SLEEPWALKING LAND” from Mozambique and “WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD” from Morocco will be available nationwide on October 26

SAN FRANCISCO, CA, October 15, 2010 — The Global Film Initiative announced today the DVD debut of two more films from its acclaimed Global Lens film series: SLEEPWALKING LAND (Terra Sonâmbula), the magical journey of a young boy in search of his family in war-torn Mozambique, directed by Teresa Prata, and WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD, director Faouzi Bensaïdi’s daringly stylish vision of a new-world Casablanca that the Museum of Modern Art calls, “Sexy, stylish and gleefully hip.” Both DVDs will be available starting October 26th through Amazon, Netflix and other retailers.

For full information about upcoming Global Lens DVD releases, and to download press materials and images, visit: globalfilm.org/press.htm

About the Films

In the midst of Mozambique's devastating civil war, Muidinga, an orphaned refugee, wanders the countryside in search of his mother. His only companion is an elderly storyteller, and the only guide to finding his mother is a dead man's diary. Together, the storyteller and diary lead him on a magical, and sometimes macabre, journey across war-torn landscapes to find the family he lost. Based on Mia Coutou's acclaimed Portuguese novel of the same name, Teresa Prata’s transporting drama underscores the power of imagination in surviving, and ultimately overcoming, the catastrophe of war.

“An affecting portrait of life during wartime…SLEEPWALKING LAND has a dreamlike texture and intimations of magic realism, but its confrontation with the experience of war bespeaks a wide-awake mind.” – The New York Times

Souad is a prostitute who is best friends with Kenza, a tough traffic cop. Kamel is a stony-eyed contract killer who receives his hit orders via the Internet; he is also Souad’s favorite customer. When Kenza falls in love with Kamel, the two begin a bizarre courtship doomed by their disparate lines of work, and a persistent cyber-snooping hacker who stumbles upon the site where Kamel receives his murderous contracts. Moroccan actor-director Faouzi Bensaïdi’s promiscuously stylish film is a new vision of an old culture, unveiling an uncommon Casablanca caught in a world wide web of associations and consequences.

“Fresh, arresting and exhilaratingly cinematic…Unlike any other film from North Africa (or indeed anywhere else).” – TimeOut London
The **Global Lens** series opens with an inaugural event at MoMA in New York each year, and then travels to museums, festivals and venues across the country garnering national acclaim and exposure. The **Global Film Initiative** will release 4-5 **Global Lens** films per quarter on DVD. Upcoming films from the **Global Lens** series which will also premiere on DVD this year are: *Mutum* by Sandra Kogut, Brazil; *My Time Will Come* by Víctor Arregui, Ecuador; *Possible Lives* by Sandra Gugliotta, Argentina; and, *Those Three* by Naghi Nemati.

**About the Global Lens Film Series**

**Global Lens** was established by Susan Weeks Coulter (GFI Board Chair) and Noah Cowan (Toronto Film Festival), and is the only feature narrative, touring film festival of its kind in North America. More than 30 nations from the regions of Africa, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Middle East are represented in the series, and some films in the series are produced with financial support from the Global Film Initiative.

**Global Lens** premieres annually at the Museum of Modern Art and screens in approximately 50 cities in the U.S. and Canada through a combination of festival and semi-theatrical screenings. 2010 festival and screening partners include: The Film Society of Lincoln Center, Cleveland International Film Festival, California Film Institute, the Dallas International Film Festival, Indie Memphis, the Miami International Film Festival, the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Film Festival, the Museum of Modern Art, the Palm Springs International Film Festival, the Salt Lake Film Society, the San Francisco International Film Festival and the Seattle International Film Festival.

**Global Lens** also screens in up to six cities internationally, and last year appeared in Cairo, Mumbai, Manila and Macedonia. In addition, **Global Lens** is the primary foreign film content on Virgin America airlines, currently featured on Link TV and coming soon to Venevision and other cable broadcast networks.

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**About the Global Film Initiative**

The Global Film Initiative is a U.S.-based, not-for-profit organization specializing in the support of independent film from Africa, Asia, Central & Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Middle East. Founded in 2002 to promote cross-cultural understanding through the language of cinema, the Initiative awards numerous grants to deserving filmmakers from around the world each year and supports a touring film series entitled Global Lens. For more information about the Global Lens film series and Global Film Initiative programs, please visit our website (www.globalfilm.org) or contact us at gfi-info@globalfilm.org.

**SLEEPWALKING LAND**

Distributor: Global Film Initiative  
Street Date: October 26, 2010  
Suggested Retail Price: $24.95  
Discs: 1  
Region: NTSC Region 1  
Production Year: 2007  
Rated: NR  
Run time: 97 minutes  
Aspect Ratio: 1.66  
Language: Portuguese, with subtitles in English  
Bonus Features: Global Lens Trailer, Film Discussion Guide  
Order Online: globalfilm.org/store

**WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD**

Distributor: Global Film Initiative  
Street Date: October 26, 2010  
Suggested Retail Price: $24.95  
Discs: 1  
Region: NTSC Region 1  
Production Year: 2006  
Rated: NR  
Run time: 94 minutes  
Aspect Ratio: 2.35  
Language: French and Arabic, with subtitles in English  
Bonus Features: Global Lens Trailer, Film Discussion Guide  
Order Online: globalfilm.org/store

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