



October 24, 2005  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PLEASE ADD TO LISTINGS**  
Velcrow Ripper is available for interviews.

**SCAREDSACRED LAUNCHES PANEL/WORKSHOP SERIES**

## **SCAREDSACRED: TRANSFORMING CRISIS**

A three week series of workshops and panels sessions exploring the themes of the feature documentary, **ScaredSacred**, hosted by the film's director, **Velcrow Ripper**.

\* \* \* for up to date workshop information and images, visit [www.scaredsacred.org](http://www.scaredsacred.org) \*\*\*\*

**October 23 - November 5, 2005**

Admission: by donation (suggested \$5 - \$10)  
Proceeds support the **ScaredSacred Project**

**Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 6 pm - 8 pm**

ScaredSacred: Media in Action

Drake Hotel (at The Underground), 1150 Queen Street West Tel: 416.531.5042

**Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 pm - 7pm**

ScaredSacred: Forgiveness, Justice and Genocide

Camera, 1028 Queen St. W. Tel: 416.530.0011

**Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 - 7pm**

ScaredSacred: Agents of Change

Camera, 1028 Queen St. W. Tel: 416.530.0011

**Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 pm - 7 pm**

FierceLight: When Spirit Meets Action

Camera, 1028 Queen St. W. Tel: 416.530.0011

The issues behind the award-winning feature documentary ScaredSacred aren't reserved merely for the silver screen. A series of exciting panels and workshops are scheduled as part of the film's national theatrical launch.



"Provocative . . . transcendent . . .mesmerizing ... astonishing!"  
- Bruce Kirkland, The Toronto SUN

"Spectacular .... an inspiring message of human compassion!"  
- Janis Cole, NOW Magazine

"More than a movie - it's a movement!"  
- Susan Oppenheim, ScaredSacred volunteer

**Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 6 pm - 8 pm**

ScaredSacred: Media in Action

Drake Hotel (at The Underground) 1150 Queen Street West, Tel: 416.531.5042

How can media be used as a tool for social change? How can podcasting, grass roots networking, multi-faith programming, and feature documentaries help change the world? An exploration of possibility in a world in crisis, from a cutting edge cast of media producers and distributors, including feminist activist and internet publisher **Judy Rebick (rabble.ca, Alternatives)**, grass roots marketing maven, **Katherine Dodds (The Corporation)**, writer/ broadcaster **Adrian Harewood (Counterspin, Independent World Television)**, and **Gerry Flahive (National Film Board of Canada)**.

Moderated by **ScaredSacred** director, **Velcrow Ripper**.

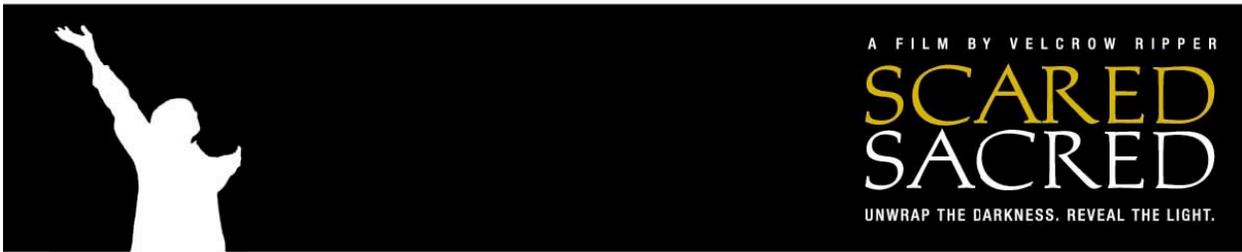
**Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 pm - 7pm**

ScaredSacred: Forgiveness, Justice and Genocide

Camera 1028 Queen St. W. Tel: 416.530.0011

What is the interplay between forgiveness and justice? What happens at the juncture of compassion and moral outrage? How does the spirit of a culture survive in exile or under attack? What about the perpetrators? And where is the sacred in all this? Join us for this fascinating discussion with three insightful minds drawing from their experience of the Tibetan exile, the Armenian genocide, and the turmoil of Lebanon and Iraq.

Featuring special guests Tibetan born scholar and Geshe, **Dr. Thutpen Jinpa** (Cambridge University; principle translator for the **Dalai Lama**), Lebanese born author **Hadani Ditmars (Dancing in the No-Fly Zone, a woman's journey through Iraq)** and Armenian born Canadian film artist, **Atom Egoyan**, who will be screening clips from his film '**Ararat**', about the Armenian genocide. Moderated by **Velcrow Ripper**.



**Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 - 7pm**

ScaredSacred: Agents of Change

Camera 1028 Queen St. W. Tel: 416.530.0011

A slide show and workshop featuring **Richard Fitoussi** from the Cambodian Land Mine Relief Fund, a campaign Richard has initiated in aid of one of the subjects of **ScaredSacred**, survivor of the Khmer Rouge genocide, **Aki Ra**. As a child soldier, Aki was forced to lay land mines by the Khmer. Today, he dedicates his life to demining Cambodian, wandering the dangerous fields and jungles with a simple wooden stick, decommissioning hundreds of land mines each year. It's his way of healing both himself, and his broken country. Hosted by **Velcrow Ripper**.

**Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 pm - 7 pm**

FierceLight: When Spirit Meets Action

The closing workshop of the series.

Camera 1028 Queen St. W. Tel: 416.530.0011

The closing panel focuses on the merging of the depth of spirit with the power of action, the theme to be explored in part two of the **ScaredSacred Trilogy: FierceLight**, a feature documentary, podcast, and non-fiction novel based on a global quest to discover stories of spiritual activism on the front lines of the planet; contemporary manifestations of what Martin Luther King called 'Love in Action,' and Gandhi called 'Soul Force.' It is the way of the Sacred Warrior, uncompromisingly nonviolent, a power that radiates from the heart and outwards, in the form of compassionate action: a '**FierceLight**.' Featuring a dynamic panel of Spiritual Activists, hosted by **Velcrow Ripper**. Check the website for guest updates.

**ScaredSacred** has been an audience-favourite at festivals all over the world and garnered numerous accolades including the Special Jury Prize at the Toronto International Film Festival. Genie-winning filmmaker **Velcrow Ripper** takes audiences on a visually stunning journey to Earth's Ground Zeros searching for hope and meaning in turmoil. **Ripper's** search takes him to the minefields of Cambodia, war-torn Afghanistan, the toxic wasteland of Bhopal, post-9/11 New York, Bosnia, Hiroshima, Israel and Palestine. While questioning if it's possible for humanity to transform the 'scared' into 'sacred', **Ripper** unearths unforgettable stories of survival, ritual, resilience and recovery. The film deftly weaves together stunning footage with haunting memories, inspirational stories, and an evocative soundscape.



**ScaredSacred** is co-produced by Scared Sacred Films and the National Film Board of Canada in association with VisionTV and ARTE France with the participation of British Columbia Film and Rogers Documentary Fund and with the generous support of the Canada Council and the BC Arts Council.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION COMPANY: Founded in 2003, Scared Sacred Films Inc. ([www.scaredsacred.org](http://www.scaredsacred.org)) was formed to produce visionary films such as SCAREDSACRED. Veteran producer Cari Green (The Corporation) and award-winning filmmaker Velcrow Ripper are the principals of the company.

ABOUT THE NFB: Created in 1939, the National Film Board of Canada has produced more than 11,000 films and won more than 4,500 awards, including 11 Oscars®. As Canada's public film producer, the NFB produces and distributes distinctive, culturally diverse, challenging and relevant audiovisual works that provide Canada and the world with a unique Canadian perspective. For more information, visit <[www.nfb.ca](http://www.nfb.ca)>.

L'ONF en bref

Depuis sa création en 1939, l'Office national du film du Canada a produit plus de 11~000 films et remporté plus de 4~500 prix, dont 11 Oscars. En tant qu'organisme public voué à la production de films au Canada, l'ONF produit et distribue des œuvres audiovisuelles distinctives, audacieuses et pertinentes. Celles-ci reflètent la diversité culturelle du pays et présentent au Canada et au reste du monde un point de vue authentiquement canadien. Pour de plus amples renseignements sur l'ONF ou pour commander des films, allez à <[www.onf.ca](http://www.onf.ca)> ou appelez au 1 800 267-7710.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:**

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