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"Cats of Mirikitani" conveys the power of friendship, compassion and the healing power of art.

Film Director Linda Hattendorf, a Cincinnati native, will be in town to speak after each screening at the Cincinnati Art Museum.

Cincinnati World Cinema will present the award-winning documentary film **THE CATS OF MIRIKITANI**, at the **Cincinnati Art Museum** on **Tuesday November 27, Wednesday November 28, and Thursday November 29**. The screenings are at 7:00 pm each evening, followed by Q&A with the filmmaker. Tickets are \$7.00 for students and Art Museum members, \$9.00 for the general public.

THE CATS OF MIRIKITANI is one of those rare finds in the documentary film world -- a first directorial work, made on a limited budget, that engages and entertains while addressing serious subjects. And it doesn't hurt that this film has a happy ending and has garnered "Best Documentary" and "Audience Favorite" awards at over 30 festivals in the U.S. and around the world.

Although the film is sobering, "Cats" has a lot of character, thanks to the film's principal persona, colorful octogenarian Jimmy Mirikitani, who tends at times to be opinionated, stubborn and a bit of a rascal. More important, in a simple, honest and personal way this film touches on things that can make a difference in our lives:

- The power of friendship & compassion to address injustice, racism, isolation, aging, homelessness.
- The healing and restorative power of art.
- The power of the individual to survive and reconnect with family and society.

This is a story of mistreatment and mistrust, spanning Jimmy Mirikitani's time in the Japanese American internment camps during World War II, to his unexpected homelessness on the streets of New York City. Throughout, Jimmy's life-long passion for, and devotion to, his art sustained him from bright beginnings, through anger and isolation, to ultimate peace and harmony. As a documentarian, Linda Hattendorf has captured Mirikitani's metamorphosis, moving from obscurity to vitality, from subsistence to purpose. As a person, Hattendorf extended a helping hand to Jimmy, which figures significantly in the outcome.

One of just three nationally prominent film directors born in Cincinnati, Ms. Hattendorf lived in College Hill as a child and later moved to the East Side, where she graduated from Anderson High School. Linda attended college in Clifton and graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Cincinnati with dual majors in Art History and English Literature. She now lives in New York City.

Details and information (tickets, trailer, film details, filmmaker bio, etc.) are available at the CWC website: <http://www.cincyworldcinema.org> and by calling **859.781.8151**.

Tickets will be available November 1: on-line via the website, at the Cincinnati Art Museum and at local outlets including Sitwell's (Clifton), Lookout Joe Coffee Roasters (Mt. Lookout Square), Shake-It Records (Northside) and the Coffee Emporium (Downtown).

MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES & SUPPORT:

Director Linda Hattendorf will be available for telephone/in-person interviews.

Screeners are available for credited reviewers; stills are available for print publications.

Call 859.781.8151 for more information.

More...

About Cincinnati World Cinema

Now in our sixth year, Cincinnati World Cinema is a non-profit, all-volunteer organization, showcasing outstanding motion pictures not normally shown in Cincinnati, with a focus on high-quality films that explore the human condition and celebrate cultural diversity. International, independent, narrative and documentary films are typically followed by discussions with filmmakers or local authorities to enhance the educational experience.
<http://www.cincyworldcinema.org>

About the Cincinnati Art Museum

Through partnership with Cincinnati World Cinema, the Cincinnati Art Museum's visitors can enjoy a range of international, documentary, live-action and animated films that further enhance their understanding of the Art Museum's collection and the world around them. Located in scenic Eden Park, the Art Museum features an unparalleled art collection of more than 60,000 works spanning 6,000 years. The Art Museum is open six days a week, free of charge to all.
<http://www.cincinnatiartmuseum.org>