



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Julia Bacha

Julia@justvision.org

**AWARD WINNING DOCUMENTARY, *ENCOUNTER POINT*,
TO BROADCAST ON ARABIC SATELLITE CHANNEL *AL ARABIYA*
BRINGING THE STORIES OF ISRAELI AND PALESTINIAN
PEACEBUILDERS TO MORE THAN 100 MILLION ARABIC SPEAKERS**

**UNPRECEDENTED BROADCAST COMES JUST AS DVD RELEASES IN THE
UNITED STATES THROUGH *TYPECAST FILMS***

** Winner Audience Award – San Francisco Film Festival * Winner Audience Award –
Rencontres Film Festival * Winner Spirit of Freedom Award – Bahamas Film Festival *
Official Selection at the Tribeca Film Festival, HotDocs, Dubai Int. Film Festival, Jerusalem
Int. Film Festival, Vancouver Film Festival **

And Critics Agree:

"Assured, thoughtful and clear-eyed." - New York Times

"Oddly funny and deeply troubling" - LA Times

*"Riveting documentary, which blazes with a kind of spiritual grace while remaining
firmly grounded in a tragic reality." - Village Voice*

"Concise, intelligent... dynamically edited." - Variety

August 6th, 2007 – **Encounter Point** will be broadcast on Al Arabyia in two parts on the 8th and 9th of August at 9pm and 8pm GMT, respectively. Al Arabyia has invited Ali Abu Awwad, one of the main protagonists of the documentary, to participate in a panel to be broadcast live immediately after the film on the 9th of August at 11pm GMT.

Encounter Point is a poignant documentary about a former Israeli settler, a Palestinian ex-prisoner, a bereaved Israeli mother and a wounded Palestinian bereaved brother who risk their lives and public standing to promote a nonviolent end to the conflict. Their journeys lead them to the unlikeliest places to confront hatred within their communities. The film explores what drives them and thousands of other like-minded civilians to overcome anger and grief to work for grassroots solutions in the face of government inaction. It is a film about the everyday leaders in our midst.

Critics from around the world have come away from Encounter Point profoundly moved and full of praise for the film, directed by Ronit Avni and co-directed by Julia Bacha

(co-writer and editor of the critically acclaimed movie, *Control Room*). Made by a team of Palestinian, Israeli, North and South American women, Encounter Point has recently screened in more than 50 cities worldwide, generating lively debate after every showing.

“We watch the news, we hear about political developments and we witness the bloodshed almost daily. Our aim with this film was not to retell these stories since we are already familiar with them,” said Producer Joline Makhoul, who also is distinguished for becoming the first Palestinian female airline pilot. “Rather, we wanted to communicate how ordinary people can change and can confront their communities to do the same. We are pleased that ‘Encounter Point’ has met with such passionate responses wherever it has been shown. We realize that across the Arab world there are deep-seated emotions on the issues we address in the film. The aim is to bring these feelings out in an open forum after the film.”

The DVD released in the US through Typecast Films on the 31st of July. For the DVD extra feature, *On the Road*, the filmmakers turned their cameras on audiences in Ramallah, Sderot, Jerusalem, Dubai and New York, to show what touched and troubled Arab, Jewish and American audiences about the film's message of nonviolence. The DVD also includes additional and extended scenes, filmmaker audio commentary, film subject audio commentary, trailers, and subtitles available in English, Arabic, Hebrew, French and Portuguese.

To schedule an interview, contact: Julia@justvision.org
To buy the DVD, visit www.encounterpoint.com