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ITVS SCHEDULES ENCORE PRESENTATIONS OF RECENT DOCUMENTARIES ON EGYPT FOR PBS AND PUBLIC TELEVISION

Films Are Part of ITVS Online Resources that Put Uprising In Egypt Into Context

(San Francisco, CA) — Filmed over four years, <u>Garbage Dreams</u>, a film shortlisted for the 2010 Academy Awards, tells the story of Egypt's most disenfranchised minorities – the <u>Zaballeen</u>, a co-optic Christian community that recycles 80 percent of Cairo's trash. The film follows two teenage boys born into the trash trade, and provides an unflinching look at poverty in the streets of Cairo. Recycling to lift themselves out of poverty, the <u>Zaballeen</u> have, through necessity, devised ingenious solutions to one of the world's most pressing problems. Directed by Mai Iskander, <u>Garbage Dreams</u> will be rebroadcast on Tuesday, May 31 at 10 PM (check local listings) on the PBS series <u>Independent Lens</u>, hosted by America Ferrera.

<u>Shayfeen.com: We are Watching You</u> follows three women in Egypt during the 2005 election who organized a new-media-savvy grassroots campaign for democracy in their country, presaging the "Wikileaks Revolution" by six years. *Shayfeen.com* explores the fragile coalition of groups and individuals working for reform in Egypt, and the dificulty of changing a political culture dominated by 30 years of authoritarian rule. *Shayfeen.com* will air on the World Channel's <u>Global Voices</u> series in early June.

Free resources, including lesson plans, online games, video clips for these films, and headlines from our partners at <u>PBS NewsHour</u> about the continued unrest in Egypt are available on ITVS's <u>Egypt and Democracy</u> page to help bring the current situation in Egypt into historical context. The lesson plans focus on digital activism and civil engagement in the political process, and the *Garbage Dreams* game, which asks players to take on the role of the *Zaballeen* to sort, process, and profit from the garbage collected in Cairo's neighborhoods.

The films, the game, and the corresponding lesson plans explore the political, human, and environmental impact of globalization in Egypt. The *Egypt and Democracy* page also features clips and lesson plans from several <u>ITVS International</u> films that focus on democracy movements around the globe.

For more information for more information about the *Egypt and Democracy* page visit, www.itvs.org/egypt

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