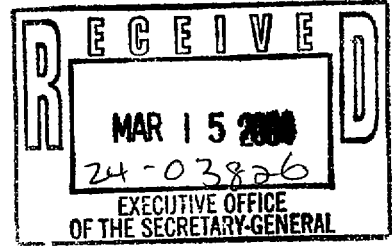


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PEACE by PEACE

Women on the Frontlines



March 9, 2004

Secretary General Kofi Annan
United Nations Headquarters
First Avenue at 46th Street
New York, NY 10017

EM
(w. video)
No reply needed.
JA 12/7/04

Dear Secretary General Annan,

As the Executive Producer of the feature-length documentary *PEACE BY PEACE: Women on the Frontlines*, I would like to offer you an opportunity to review our important and timely film. Judging from your work at the United Nations, I think this film will be of special interest to you.

PEACE BY PEACE: Women on the Frontlines celebrates the unheralded work of women peace-builders around the world. Filmed in Afghanistan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Burundi, Argentina and the US, our documentary takes viewers into the lives of these courageous women who are working on the frontlines from the home schools outside Kabul to the marches of the unemployed in Buenos Aires. Academy Award-winning actress Jessica Lange narrates the documentary.

As we prepare for our national PBS primetime broadcast in June of 2004, your critique, as a leading voice in human rights and diplomacy, would be an invaluable contribution to our distribution efforts around the world. We would like to include your review in our press materials and on the video jacket of our DVD and VHS tapes.

No.

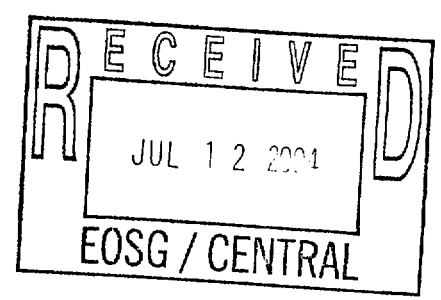
Women on the Frontlines has already caught the attention of the global peace and diplomatic communities, having premiered at the United Nations on the third anniversary of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security in late October 2003. A month later the film received further critical success at a screening held at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC.

Please find enclosed a VHS tape of our 86-minute film, biographies of our filmmakers, and a one-page synopsis of the film. Your critique can be e-mailed to our Public Relations Director, Jenny Town at jtown@peacepeace.org or mailed to her attention at:

PEACE X PEACE
2086 Hunters Crest Way
Vienna, VA 22181

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to your response.

With great respect,
Patricia
Patricia Smith Melton
Executive Producer



PEACE by PEACE

Women on the Frontlines

The current state of the world makes us wonder if peace is possible on a global scale. Terrorists, extremists and dictators have led the human race into wars and violence for centuries in the name of justice, religion and revenge. In the past, soldiers were, more often than not, the casualties of war, but in modern warfare, this is no longer true. Today ninety percent of all war casualties are civilians, the majority of whom are women and children. Yet in the midst of this ongoing horror, women around the world are standing up for peace, advocating restorative justice and educating future generations that violence is not the answer. More than a year in the making, *PEACE BY PEACE: Women on the Frontlines* celebrates these women in a breakthrough documentary of their unheralded work.

Focusing on two women in each country, *PEACE BY PEACE: Women on the Frontlines* takes viewers into the lives of women who are engaged in the often ignored aspects of peace-building. Verite portraits provide intimate accounts that include former underground teachers educating women and girls in **Afghanistan**, female leaders of the unemployed workers promoting participatory democracy in **Argentina**, community builders providing micro-credit loans to women in **Bosnia-Herzegovina**, Hutu and Tutsi women working together to operate a peace radio station in **Burundi**, and women in the **United States** who lost family members on 9/11, and are leading the search for peaceful solutions in the war against terror.

Woven between these portraits are both historical footage of the violence that devastated their societies and interviews with international female experts on diverse aspects of peace building. The interviews provide the context of what is needed for sustainable peace and how women are already building this foundation around the world. These experts include Isabel Allende, Chilean-American author and humanitarian; Dr. Azizah al-Hibri, Founder-Director of Muslim Women Lawyers for Human Rights; Noeleen Heyzer, Executive Director of UNIFEM; Susan Collin Marks, Executive Vice President of Search for Common Ground; and Jean Shinoda Bolen, Jungian analyst and author.

This feature-length documentary premiered at the United Nations on October 30, 2003 on the third anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security and will premiere on PBS in 2004.

PEACE BY PEACE: Women on the Frontlines is narrated by Academy Award-winning actress, Jessica Lange, edited by Academy Award-winning editor, Kate Amend, with original music by Academy Award-nominated composer, Miriam Cutler. For information on future screenings and availability, contact Jenny Town at 703-869-2249 or jtown@peacepeace.org.

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PEACE X PEACE is a nonprofit organization that supports, educates and connects women locally and globally, empowering them to build the conditions for sustainable peace. It's three main program initiatives are the documentary, an internet-based network connecting women around the world and a public forum of education through its website and e-*Newsletter*. For more information, visit www.peacepeace.org.



PATRICIA SMITH MELTON

Executive Director, PEACE X PEACE

Executive Producer and Co-Director, *PEACE BY PEACE: Women on the Frontlines*

Director, Melton Arts Foundation

Patricia Smith Melton has spent the last decade dedicated to the creation of nonprofit organizations that foster international education and cultural exchange. In 1990 she co-founded The Melton International Education Foundation, which brought together university students in India, China, Chile, Germany, and the U.S. in the earliest large-scale international "experiment" in cross-cultural bonding for young people through the Internet. There are now 100 Melton Fellows each year who communicate daily exploring various international social issues and collaborating on social projects, with a growing number Melton Alumni dedicated towards projects, such as conflict resolution, on national and international levels.

Using her work with the Melton Foundation as a model for structure and communication, in 2002, Ms. Smith Melton founded PEACE X PEACE, a nonprofit organization that uses the Internet to support the peace-building work of women locally and globally, through connection, recognition, and education. As an independent, yet mutually supportive program effort for PEACE X PEACE, Ms. Smith Melton also serves as Executive Producer and co-Director of the documentary, *PEACE BY PEACE: Women on the Frontlines*, which highlights the often invisible work of women around the world to build the conditions necessary for a new culture of sustainable peace.

Ms. Smith Melton also currently serves as the Director of the Melton Arts Foundation, an organization that supports theaters and theater arts in the Washington, DC area through various outreach programs such as the Young Playwrights Theater of D.C. which teaches playwriting to high school and grade school level students and selects certain of these plays for professional production back to schools, libraries, recreation and health facilities, area penitentiaries and larger theater venues.

Ms. Smith Melton is a poet, playwright and photographer.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

For interviews or further information, contact:

Jenny Town
Public Relations Manager
PEACE X PEACE
Phone: 703-869-2249
Email: jtown@peacexpeace.org



LISA HEPNER

Director and Producer

PEACE BY PEACE: Women on the Frontlines

For the past eight years, Lisa Hepner's creativity, clear leadership and fresh vision have made her one of the premier producers in the television documentary world. For the past year, she has been directing and producing a feature-length documentary with Executive Producer Patricia Smith Melton that profiles women peace builders in Afghanistan, Argentina, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Burundi and the US. *PEACE BY PEACE: Women on the Frontlines*, Ms. Hepner's feature directorial debut, premieres at the United Nations in October of 2003 and is scheduled for its national television broadcast premiere on PBS in mid-2004.

Prior to *Women on the Frontlines*, Ms. Hepner worked on a variety of projects for HBO, A&E, PBS, Lifetime, MTV and Columbia Tri-Star Television. Highlights include working with director, Michael Apted, for the A&E documentary series *Married in America*; directing the Australian chapter of the HBO documentary, *Naked World*; field producing a one-hour portrait of ABC News correspondent Cokie Roberts for Lifetime Television; and co-producing a feature-length documentary for HBO with Director Lisa F. Jackson and Executive Producer Linda Ellerbee,

When not working in the US, this Canadian-born journalist can be found in such far-flung places as Tonga, where she helped produce a live broadcast of their millennium celebrations.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

For interviews or further information, contact:

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Email: jtown@peacexpeace.org