

Media Release

Contact:

Iryna Goula, Alaya Productions

Phone: (571) 278-6081

Email: iryna.goula@alaya-productions.com

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“CROSSROADS – Ukraine and the Triumph of Democracy” Now Available in DVD

(Washington, DC) The feature documentary, “CROSSROADS – Ukraine and the Triumph of Democracy,” will be released for sale to the public in DVD format beginning Wednesday, 28 March 2007.

Through the eyes of six Ukrainians, “CROSSROADS” examines the history and current events of Ukraine as context for exploring the even deeper question of democracy and what it means to be – or to become – an autonomous, free, and self-governing people. Produced by Alaya Productions, this one-hour documentary will be available online through a number of general interest and Ukrainian Diaspora websites and catalogues.

Of the film, *Washington Post* film critic Ann Hornaday writes that “filmmaker Paul Tremblay has made a sensitive, surprisingly intimate documentary about Ukraine’s 2004 Orange Revolution, contextualizing the struggle for democracy within a history of outside encroachment and juxtaposing candid profiles of revolution participants with poetic footage taken by Ukrainian filmmaker Aleksandr Dovzhenko.”

What are the dreams and what are the challenges that make up this struggle for democracy? That was the question that first intrigued the producers. “There’s no real beginning or end to the answer,” says Tremblay, the film’s director. “It’s like the history of Ukraine itself. The themes repeat themselves in cycles, which is why we structured the story the way we did, to immerse the viewer in that context. It’s a complex story but in Ukraine, they live that complexity on a daily basis.”

The film “takes the story of our country to a very human level, and makes it accessible and compelling not only to the mind, but also to the heart,” says Oleh Shamshur, Ukraine’s Ambassador to the United States. “As diplomats, that is one of our own most important objectives, to show the human face of our people, our land, our traditions, our nation. This thoughtful film accomplishes exactly that.”

The film has screened in Washington DC, New York, Los Angeles and London. It was an official selection at the 2006 Philadelphia Documentary and Fiction Festival and the

2006 Asheville Film Festival. Adrian Erlinger, who was in Ukraine during the Orange Revolution as an interpreter for the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, writes that “I learned so much about the [Orange] Revolution from the six interviewees, even though I lived through it.” Erlinger saw the film in DC, where he now works as a Eurasia Analyst for a press agency. “I was impressed,” he said, “at the scope of the film and how it touched so many aspects – history, culture, politics, economics.”

Interested members of the public can go to any of the following websites to purchase the documentary:

- Alaya Productions www.alaya-productions.com
- Amazon.com www.amazon.com
- Film Baby www.filmbaby.com
- Yevshan www.yevshan.com
- All Things Ukrainian www.allthingsukrainian.com

The film will also be available by writing directly to Alaya Productions at 504 Fillmore Street, Herndon, VA, USA, or by calling 1.571.278.6081.

Alaya Productions is an independent documentary production company dedicated to producing stories about people, as told from and through their personal experiences. More information is available at www.alaya-productions.com.