



## **Modern Day Slaves by San Francisco Filmmaker Ted Unarce of GTC Films Captures Indie Fest 2009 Award of Excellence**

For Immediate Release

SAN FRANCISCO/EWORLDWIRE/Dec. 8, 2009 --- In just 60 heart-wrenching minutes, filmmaker Ted Unarce exposes neglect and abuse experienced by four overseas foreign workers - or "OFWs" - in the final cut of his work, "Modern Day Slaves," and the rendering of the Filipinos' stories takes an Award of Excellence at the 2009 Indie Fest.

Unarce dedicated his award from the La Jolla, California-based international competition to the four victims saying, "It was their courage to speak out that gives my film an emotional impact. I am honored by their willingness to share their stories with me and I dedicate this award to them."

Following the lives of four Filipinos OFWs working in Hong Kong and Saudi Arabia, MODERN DAY SLAVES depict rape, severe physical and psychological torture, and even a beheading, to detail how human rights are violated and to illustrate the neglect and abuse experienced by OFWs worldwide.

Filmmaker Ted Unarce's mission is to bring this issue to light so that it is openly discussed in the media, academia and the public.

The release of Unarce's work is likely to stir up emotions in the Philippines, which was ravaged by two catastrophic typhoons in October; it's also where President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo imposed martial law on December 6, 2009, in a province where 57 people were recently killed in a political massacre. Tensions in the Philippines are expected to escalate in the run up to the May 2010 presidential elections, with efforts to replace President Arroyo who has been widely accused of human rights abuses by international NGOs. "My film will serve as a wake up call to Filipinos living abroad that it is time to unite with our countrymen back home and demand accountability from the political leaders of the Philippines," said Unarce.

Unarce is president and executive producer of GTC Films, a San Francisco, California-based production company that specializes in documentaries that expose the effects of economic insecurity and globalization on the lives of people in both developing and developed countries.

The Indie Fest recognizes film professionals who demonstrate exceptional achievement in craft and creativity, and those who produce standout entertainment or contribute to profound social change. The prestigious Award of Excellence is given to "productions that make a significant contribution to social change." Entries are judged by highly qualified professionals in the film industry. Information about the Indie Fest and a list of recent winners can be found at TheIndieFest.com ('<http://www.theindiefest.com>').

In winning an Indie, GTC Films joins the ranks of high profile winners of this internationally respected award. Thomas Baker, Ph.D., who chairs the Indie Fest, had this to say about the latest winners: "The Indie helps set

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the standard for craft and creativity. The judges were pleased with the exceptionally high quality of entries. The goal of The Indie is to help winners achieve the recognition they deserve."

For more information, visit ModernDaySlavesMovie.com ('<http://www.moderndayslavesmovie.com>') and GTCFilms.com ('<http://www.gtcfilms.com>').

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**SOURCE:** GTC Films