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## ONE FAMILY'S EXTRAORDINARY JOURNEY OF HOPE AND HEALING: THE AWARD-WINNING "THE HORSE BOY" COMES TO DVD

New York (February 25, 2010) — An intensely personal yet epic spiritual quest, ***THE HORSE BOY*** follows one Texas couple and their autistic son as they trek on horseback through the breathtaking steppes of Mongolia in an attempt to find healing for him. After garnering accolades at Sundance, South by Southwest and the Heartland Film Festival (where it won a Truly Moving Picture Award), this joyous crowd-pleaser enjoyed a national theatrical rollout in more than 100 U.S. markets. ***THE HORSE BOY* comes to DVD on April 20, 2010.**

When two-year-old Rowan was diagnosed with autism, Rupert Isaacson, a writer and former horse trainer, and his wife Kristin Neff, a psychology professor, sought the best possible medical care, but conventional therapies had little effect. Then they discovered that Rowan has a profound kinship with animals—particularly horses—and the family set off on a journey that would change their lives forever. In telling one family's extraordinary story, the film gives voice to the thousands who display amazing courage and creativity everyday in the battle against this mysterious and heartbreaking epidemic. This ravishing documentary odyssey shows how, in life's darkest moments, one can find the gateway to joy and wonder. ***The Horse Boy* is part travel adventure, part insight into shamanic healing and part intimate look at the autistic mind.**

Zeitgeist's DVD release of ***THE HORSE BOY*** features an anamorphic transfer enhanced for widescreen televisions. Supplemental materials include **additional interviews with celebrated autism experts including Prof. Simon Baron-Cohen, anthropologist Roy Richard Grinker and Dr. Temple Grandin—subject of an acclaimed new HBO biopic starring Claire Danes**; behind-the-scenes and outtake footage of the Isaacsons' Mongolian journey; and optional English subtitles for the deaf and hearing impaired.

**THE HORSE BOY Film/DVD info:** 2009 • 93 minutes • US • Color • In English • 1.85:1 theatrical aspect ratio  
• Stereo • Not Rated

**Note: Zeitgeist's DVD release of *The Horse Boy* is available in the U.S. only. The best-selling companion book by Rupert Isaacson, *The Horse Boy*, is being published on April 2 by Little, Brown.**

Celebrating more than 20 years as one of America's preeminent independent distributors, New York-based Zeitgeist Films has built an impressively diverse catalogue of foreign, documentary and arthouse titles by such renowned directors as Todd Haynes, Jan Svankmajer, Peter Greenaway, Abbas Kiarostami, Guy Maddin, Kirby Dick, Atom Egoyan, Agnès Varda, François Ozon, Derek Jarman, Yvonne Rainer, Olivier Assayas, Philippe Garrel, Nuri Bilge Ceylan, Carlos Saura and the Quay Brothers. Recent releases include Oscar winner ***Nowhere in Africa***; blockbuster doc ***The Corporation***; dance doc hit ***Ballets Russes***; Oscar nominee ***Sophie Scholl—The Final Days***; Oscar nominee ***My Country, My Country***; Sundance winner ***Into Great Silence***; 2008 Oscar nominee ***Trouble the Water***; and the Cannes-winning Kazakh charmer ***Tulpan***. Launched in 2001, Zeitgeist Video has released dozens of highly praised DVDs, including the remastered Two-Disc Edition of Quay shorts, entitled ***PHANTOM MUSEUMS***; a Four-Disc Box Set of Jarman masterworks entitled ***GLITTERBOX***, with Oscar winner Tilda Swinton; an Essential Edition of Assayas' cult fave ***Irma Vep*** starring Maggie Cheung; and the "Repressed & Remastered" Edition of Maddin's 1992 mountain film classic ***Careful***.



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## CRITICAL ACCLAIM FOR *THE HORSE BOY*

"This is a **great film** and everyone who is interested in autism, animals or different cultures should see it."  
—Dr. Temple Grandin

"*The Horse Boy* is **inspiring, amazing, compelling and hopeful**. Through love, dedication and acceptance this family journeys through the world to, ultimately, find themselves. It moved me so." —Rosie O'Donnell

"A **lyrical, heartbreaking and deeply stirring meditation** on the mystery of autism." —*Entertainment Weekly*

"Lovely! An **extraordinary** journey of the heart and spirit, and a stirring testament to parenthood."  
—*Los Angeles Times*

"The film is not a primer on this heartbreaking condition. Instead it recounts a **deeply personal**, highly subjective and **inarguably thought-provoking** story of one family's quest for a certain kind of peace."  
—*The New York Times*

"A **lovely, amazing, wonderfully provocative film**. Not even the most hardened scientific minds will be immune to the film's extraordinary story, or to the quiet charms of a [equine] supporting character named Betsy, who emerges as the film's true heroine." —*The Washington Post*

"The healing odyssey...provides a **powerful** look at the complex condition of autism and family dedication."  
—*Houston Chronicle*

"*The Horse Boy* is about the importance of not losing hope." —*The Wall Street Journal*

"Tells a **remarkable** story!" —Roger Ebert, *The Chicago Sun-Times*

"Moving.... A **staggering** document of the lengths parents will go to for the sake of their child."  
—*The Austin Chronicle*

"The hope that inspired this **incredible** journey is evident in every frame." —*CBS News*

"It is hard to find a more **inspirational** story than that of Rowan Isaacson." —*The Daily Texan (Austin)*

"★★★★! **Intriguing!** *The Horse Boy* isn't trying to provide any definitive answers about autism. It's offering intriguing possibilities." —*The Dallas Morning News*

"A nicely photographed real-life adventure, and with some **wisdom** about autism for everyone along the pathway." —*Boston Phoenix*

"**Magic, mystery, unflinching love, unflinching devotion.** *The Horse Boy*...invites us to step outside conventional ideas about autism, and in doing so, discover a world of profound and amazing possibilities."  
—*Autism Digest*