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BANNED BY CHINESE AUTHORITIES! “THE SUN BEHIND THE CLOUDS: TIBET’S STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM” COMES TO DVD OCTOBER 19TH

New York (September 8, 2010) — The controversial and provocative documentary on the Dalai Lama’s ceaseless struggle for justice and recognition for the Tibetan people, *The Sun Behind the Clouds* arrives on DVD just months after Chinese authorities attempted to pull the film from the prestigious Palm Springs International Film Festival. Released in the spring to critical acclaim in over a dozen cities nationwide, *The Sun Behind the Clouds* focuses on the pivotal and particularly tumultuous events of 2008.

***The Sun Behind the Clouds* comes to DVD on October 19, 2010.**

From the four-month march of exiled Tibetans to the Indo-Tibet border and Buddhist monks' protests in Lhasa, to the Beijing Olympics and the contentious talks between the Chinese government and the Dalai Lama’s emissaries, the film uncovers the growing rifts between younger Tibetans and their most respected spiritual leader.

While His Holiness advocates for political autonomy within China rather than secession from it, a younger generation within Tibet has grown impatient and begun to chart a more confrontational course. Following the Dalai Lama’s political life with unprecedented personal access, Tibetan filmmaker Tenzing Sonam and co-director Ritu Sarin (directors of *Dreaming Lhasa*, executive produced by Richard Gere) bring an impassioned focus to the myriad complexities in finding a peaceful solution based on compromise and dialogue.

Zeitgeist’s DVD release of *The Sun Behind the Clouds* features a new anamorphic transfer, created from hi-def elements. Extras include **extended interview excerpts with the Dalai Lama**; as well as deleted scenes, a theatrical trailer and optional English subtitles for the deaf and hearing impaired.

***The Sun Behind the Clouds* DVD info:** 2010 • 79 mins • India/UK • Color • In English, Tibetan and Mandarin with English subtitles • 1.78:1 theatrical aspect ratio • Stereo • Not Rated • Cat. No. Z1131 • UPC 795975113137 • SRP \$29.99

Note: Zeitgeist’s DVD release of The Sun Behind the Clouds is available in the U.S. only.

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. Current and upcoming releases: Italian crowd-pleaser *Mid-August Lunch* (from the creators of *Gomorrah*); *Last Train Home* (from the makers of *Up the Yangtze*); and *Vision – From the Life of Hildegard von Bingen*, directed by New German Cinema legend Margarethe von Trotta and starring Barbara Sukowa (*Berlin Alexanderplatz*). In August 2010, Zeitgeist also became the exclusive home media distributor of KimStim, an eclectic Brooklyn, New York-based arthouse label with a library of 50+ films from groundbreaking directors including Alain Resnais, Raul Ruiz, André Techiné, Chantal Akerman, François Ozon, Laurent Cantet, Seijun Suzuki, Jafar Panahi, Mohsen Makhmalbaf, Abbas Kiarostami and Otar Iosseliani.



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ACCLAIM FOR “THE SUN BEHIND THE CLOUDS”

“Of the many documentaries that have chronicled Tibet's ongoing struggle for independence, *The Sun Behind the Clouds* offers **THE MOST THOROUGH, BALANCED AND UP-TO-DATE ASSESSMENT** of the dilemma facing tibetans under oppressive Chinese rule.” —Jeff Shannon, *Seattle Times*

“**BEAUTIFUL, STIRRING AND INESCAPABLY ELEGIAC.**” —Kevin Thomas, *L.A. Times*

“This film shows what is happening in the hearts of the Tibetan people...it presents a **VERY UNUSUAL INSIGHT** into the situation in Tibet.” —Former Czech Republic President Vaclav Havel

“The documentary does a **SUPERLATIVE** job of examining the half-century dispute over Chinese rule of mountainous Tibet.” —V.A. Musetto, *New York Post*

“A **POTENT** update on Tibetans' 50-year struggle for justice and recognition...**ESSENTIAL** viewing for anyone who cares about the fate of the mountain region and the legacy of the Dalai Lama.”
—Sheri Linden, *The Hollywood Reporter*

“A welcome departure from many previous films about the decades-long friction between Tibet and China...an exception in what is not an angry film but a **NOTABLY CALM, WELL-CONSIDERED AND BALANCED** one.” —Robert Koehler, *Variety*

WINNER—Vaclav Havel Award, One World Film Festival, Prague

WINNER—Rudolf Vrba Award, One World Film Festival, Prague

WINNER—Silver Conch, Mumbai International Film Festival

WINNER—Audience Award, Los Angeles Indian Film Festival

BEST OF THE FEST—Palm Springs International Film Festival

BEST OF THE FEST—Minneapolis International Film Festival