**Four Oscar-nominated films in the 10th ZagrebDox programme!**

Zagreb, 14 February – This year’s edition of ZagrebDox includes among its 150 films four of them that compete for one of the most prestigious film prizes in the world – the Academy Award! Of five nominees in the best documentary category, three are scheduled for this year’s festival sections, and one was shown last year in international competition.

The American film ***Dirty Wars*** by director, cinematographer and editor Richard Rowley is part of international competition and follows investigative journalist Jeremy Scahill, the author of the international bestseller *Blackwater*, to the heart of American secret wars, from Afghanistan to Yemen, Somalia and further. Part political thriller, part detective story, this film brings one of the most important and least explored stories of our time. What begins as a report on the failed American air raid in the backward part of Afghanistan quickly becomes a global investigation of the mysterious and powerful Joint Special Operations Command. The film *Dirty Wars* has so far won a series of awards, including the F:ACT Award at CPH:DOX, best documentary at Warsaw Film Festival, and best camera at Sundance.

The Biography Dox section presents ***Cutie and the Boxer***. This is a film based on art, partnership and the 40 years of love between Ushio and Noriko Shinohara, eccentric Japanese artists who met and got married in New York City in the early 1970s. Ushio’s sculptures brought him fame, but rarely money. Noriko – who gave up art to assist him – now finally goes out of her husband’s shadow and creates drawings that catch the public eye and cause Ushio’s jealousy. Debut director Zachary Heinzerling won the best director award at the last Sundance, and the film won the second audience award at Tribeca.

***Twenty Feet from Stardom*** is part of the Musical Globe section. Besides its chance to win an Oscar, the film has already garnered a dozen recognitions at international festivals. Director Morgan Neville puts in the spotlight the untold tales of the back vocals of some of the greatest music legends of the 21st century. The so far unsung heroes of great stages and their unique life stories are told through rare archive footage and intimate interviews with music greats: Bruce Springsteen, Stevie Wonder, Mick Jagger, Sting etc. Accompanied by an outstanding soundtrack!

***The Act of Killing*** by Joshua Oppenheimer was one of the 9th ZagrebDox award sinners and definitely one of the titles that caused most stir in the international film circuit. At ZagrebDox – one of the first festivals that screened it – it won the Movies That Matter Award, as well as the European Film Award in the best documentary category, CPH:DOX Grand Prix and two awards at the Berlinale: the Panorama audience award and the Ecumenical Jury Prize. The film is a journey through memories and imagination of ruthless criminals in the Indonesian shocking regime of corruption and ideology. When the army in 1965 deposed the Indonesian government, Anwar and his friends were promoted from petty thieves who sold movie tickets on the black market to death squad leaders. In less than a year they helped the army kill over a million alleged communists, ethnic Chinese and intellectuals. In *The Act of Killing* they tell their stories of murder, but do not agree to a documentary testimony. They wish to be the stars of their favourite gangster movies, westerns and musicals. Werner Herzog, next to Errol Morris one of this film’s executive producers, said that in the last ten years he had not seen such a powerful, surreal and frightening film, and Dušan Makavejev described it as an absolute and unique masterpiece. The local audience can see it again at ZagrebDox, in the My Best Dox category.