



# Everyone Their Grain of Sand

**A documentary by Beth Bird**

Digital Betacam, 87 Minutes

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# EVERYONE THEIR GRAIN OF SAND

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## Jury Citation, Los Angeles Film Festival

“This year’s Target Documentary Award winner is a return to unvarnished, passionate documentary filmmaking. It’s a testimony to the importance of access and dedication, both of which culminate in an engrossing look at issues of corporate power and international politics as they bear down on the lives of ordinary citizens. With a deceptive simplicity, this film captures the courage and resilience of those who rise up to ‘fight the power.’” – Joan Churchill, Renee Tajima-Peña, Ernest Hardy: Los Angeles Film Festival Target Documentary Award Jury

"stirring....a gorgeous demonstration of people power" – Chuck Wilson,  
*LA Weekly*

“a fascinating chronicle of community activism...” – Jonny Leahan, *indieWIRE*

## **SYNOPSIS**

Beth Bird's **EVERYONE THEIR GRAIN OF SAND** chronicles the struggles of the fiercely determined citizens of Maclovio Rojas, Tijuana, Mexico, as they battle the state government's attempts to evict them from their land to make way for corporate development. Over a three-year period, we follow the remarkably spirited and resourceful residents as they build a school by hand and persistently petition the state for such basic services as running water and pay for their teachers. The government responds with a combination of bureaucratic stonewalling and the systematic persecution of community leaders—eventually arresting one leader and forcing others into hiding, where they remain to this day. This heartbreaking and intimate documentary balances these hardships with glimpses of hard-won triumphs and the rhythm of daily life—an elementary school graduation or time at home with family—to remind us what the community is fighting for. The film provides a rare glimpse of the human cost of economic globalization.

## **BIOGRAPHIES**

### **BETH BIRD (Producer/Director/Cinematographer)**

Beth Bird is a documentary filmmaker whose work engages vital contemporary social issues such as globalization, popular resistance, and local community empowerment, drawing attention to and putting a human face on struggles for social justice. *Everyone Their Grain Of Sand*, Bird's first feature-length film, won the 2005 Jury Award for Best Documentary at its U.S. premiere at the Los Angeles Film Festival, Best San Diego Feature at the San Diego Film Festival, and Festival Favorite at the Oxnard Film Festival. It has screened nationally and internationally at major venues including at the Museum of Modern Art in New York; the Viennale (Vienna International Film Festival); InSITE 2005 in Tijuana, Mexico; The Play Gallery, Berlin; the Prague Biennale; and the Morelia International Film Festival in Morelia, Mexico. Bird's other films include *D2KLA* (2000), which documents clashes between the police and protesters outside the Democratic National Convention in Los Angeles in August, 2000, and *Love Knows No Borders* (1997), which examines discrimination in U.S. immigration law against lesbians and gay men.

### **LIBBY HORNE (Editor)**

Libby Horne comes to documentary editing with over 15 years' experience in broadcast journalism and television production, and a lifelong interest in politics and social change. As an editor, her most recent work includes several highly-rated Discovery Network programs: *My Husband's Three Wives*, *Incredibly Small*, and *The 750-pound Man*, and. In addition to *Everyone Their Grain of Sand*, she has also edited many independent documentaries including *Living in Color*, profiling South Asian Angelinos, *Windows*, a portrait of restaurant workers at Windows on the World who were killed during the September 11, 2001 attack on the World Trade Center, and she has produced and edited numerous short documentaries and advocacy pieces for various labor unions and non-profit organizations. In addition, Horne has worked as a reporter/producer for The MacNeil/Lehrer *Newshour*, series producer for Discovery Channel's popular *Travelers* show, and as an independent producer/director for many educational and promotional videos.

## **CREDITS**

Produced and Directed by..... Beth Bird

Cinematography and Sound Recording..... Beth Bird

Editing..... Libby Horne & Beth Bird

Transcribing..... Margara De Leon  
Linda Delgado

Sound Mix..... Craig Smith

Graphics and Animation..... Stephan Avalos  
Carole Kim  
Astra Price

Tijuana Consultants..... Norma Iglesias  
Margara De Leon

On-Line Editor..... David Davidson

On-Line Facility..... Solvent Dreams

Color Correction..... Point 360 West

# RADIO AND TELEVISION APPEARANCES

## RADIO

<u>Date</u>	<u>Station</u>	<u>Show</u>
October 2004	Orange, 94.0 FM Vienna, Austria	<i>Kultur Film</i> with Gerhard Kettler
November 2004	KPFK, 90.7 FM Los Angeles, USA	<i>Uprising</i> with Sonali Kolhatkar
November 2004	Radio Z13, 1270 AM Tijuana, Mexico	<i>Noticiero de la Manana</i> with Manuel Suarez Soto
November 2004	Estereo Frontera, 102.5 FM Tijuana, Mexico	<i>Palabra de Mujer</i> with Sonia Flores
December 2004	KPFK, 90.7 FM Los Angeles, USA	<i>The Other LA</i> with Ernest Savage
June 2005	KPFK, 90.7 FM Los Angeles, USA	<i>Uprising</i> with Sonali Kolhatkar
June 2005	KXLU 88.9 FM Los Angeles, USA	<i>Center Stage</i> with Mark Gordon
February 2006	WMNF 88.5 FM Tampa Florida	<i>The Women's Program</i> with Mary Glenney
February 2006	KSFR 90.7 FM Santa Fe	<i>Santa Fe Radio Café</i> with Mary Charlotte

## TELEVISION

November 2004	Televisa XEWT, Ch. 12 Tijuana, Mexico	Noticiero de las 6
June 2005	Telemundo KVEA, Ch. 52 Los Angeles, USA	Buenos Dias
June 2005	Univision KMEX, Ch. 34 Los Angeles, USA	Noticiero de las 11
June 2005	Univision KMEX, Ch. 34 Los Angeles, USA	Despierta America