



512 West 19th Street New York, NY 10011
tel 212 255 5793 www.thekitchen.org

Press Contact: Blake Zidell & Associates
tel: 718.643.9052
fax: 718.643.9502
blake@blakezidell.com

For Immediate Release

**The Kitchen presents the New York premiere of
Sam Green and Dave Cerf's live documentary
Utopia in Four Movements, Thursday—Saturday, October 7—9**

**Performance features live narration by the Academy Award-nominated
Sam Green (*The Weather Underground*) and
live music by sound artist David Cerf and the band The Quavers**

New York, NY, August 18, 2010—This fall, The Kitchen presents the New York premiere of *Utopia in Four Movements*, a “live documentary” by the Oscar-nominated director of *The Weather Underground*, **Sam Green**, and the sound artist **Dave Cerf**. The film explores the battered state of the utopian impulse at the dawn of the twenty-first century. Green narrates in person, cuing the images himself, while Dave Cerf constructs a soundtrack of samples and loops and the Brooklyn-based band **The Quavers** plays a lyrical score. Performances of *Utopia in Four Movements* will take place **Thursday through Saturday, October 7—9, 8:00 P.M.** at The Kitchen (512 West 19th Street). Tickets are \$15.

In *Utopia*, Green and Cerf, with their collaborators and audiences, sift through history and search for insights about the way to build a vision of the future based on humankind's noblest impulses. Interweaving archival and original materials, they introduce audiences to Esperanto, the fascinating man-made language designed to end war and cultural conflict; to an American exile living in Cuba, whose undying optimism counterpoints that of her crumbling surroundings—a time-capsule untouched by Capitalism; to the economic boom in China, manifested in the surreal space of the world's largest shopping mall; and finally to the humanitarian field of forensic anthropology, which reflects both the disappointments of the 20th Century and humanity's unending well of hope in its quest to give human remains in mass graves dignified burials.

For Green and Cerf, utopia is both a subject and a creative aspiration: They embrace live performance for its inherent collectivity—the way it transcends the boundaries of audience members' individual lives and connects them with something larger. Furthermore, *Utopia* speaks to the current state of cinema: In Green's view, filmmakers either have to embrace the notion of people watching their work furtively, in stolen moments, on laptops and iPods, or create something that cannot be reduced to a digital file.

Utopia in Four Movements is directed by Sam Green, co-directed by David Cerf, and produced by Sam Green, **Carrie Lozano** and **Jasmine Dellal**. The film features cinematography by **Andy Black** and is edited by **Sam Green** and **Dave Cerf**.

Utopia in Four Movements comes to The Kitchen amid a successful tour of both film festivals and performing arts institutions. Having earned acclaim at Sundance, the LA Film Festival and Silverdocs,

among other festivals, *Utopia* will soon be presented at the Wexner Center For The Arts in Columbus, Ohio and the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, MN.

About the Creators

Sam Green (Director) is a San Francisco-based documentary filmmaker. His feature *The Weather Underground* was nominated for an Academy Award, broadcast nationally on PBS, and included in the 2004 Whitney Biennial. His other award-winning documentaries include *lot 63*, *grave c*, *The Rainbow Man/John 3:16*, *N-Judah 5:30*, and *Pie Fight '69*. Green has received grants from the Guggenheim, Rockefeller, and Creative Capital Foundations, and the NEA. He received his master's degree from the University of California, Berkeley, where he studied with acclaimed filmmaker Marlon Riggs. Green currently teaches at the University of San Francisco and the San Francisco Art Institute. For more information, please visit www.samgreen.to.

Dave Cerf (Co-director, Music) is a filmmaker, musician, sound artist, and software designer. After graduating California Institute of the Arts, he moved to the Bay Area and began collaborating with other musicians, filmmakers, and media artists. He composed music for Scott Kennedy's film *OT:* and Sam Green's *The Weather Underground*, and performed live musical and sound accompaniment over the films of Jennifer Reeves, Pat O'Neill, and Melinda Stone, including her 2003 California Tour of abandoned drive-in movie theaters. Dave also tours both in the U.S. and internationally with Threnody Ensemble—a band co-founded with longtime friend Erik Hoversten. Dave is currently a user interface designer at Apple, Inc.

Brooklyn band The Quavers (Live Soundtrack) are T. Griffin, Catherine McRae and Dennis Cronin, with other frequent collaborators. They coax a luminous sound out of decayed samplers, walkmans, vibraphonette, footpedal loopers, tape echo violin and homespun harmonies. Like a space-age Carter Family, they weave low-tech electronics around songs sturdy enough to stand up even if the power goes out. They call it "porch techno." They have released four CD's, which can be found via their website: www.shinylittlerecords.com.

Carrie Lozano (Producer) is a Bay-Area based journalist and documentary filmmaker. Among other work, she produced and directed the award-winning film *Reporter Zero*, about journalist Randy Shilts, and produced the Academy-Award nominee *The Weather Underground*. She was recently a post-graduate fellow at the Investigative Reporting Program at U.C. Berkeley's Graduate School of Journalism and is currently developing a documentary film about African-American poet June Jordan.

Jasmine Dellal (Producer) is an award-winning documentary director and producer based in New York. She founded Little Dust Productions to make artistic and entertaining films that, in some small way, may help make the world a better place. Dellal was raised in England, but also spent much of her childhood with a grandmother in India. Her filmmaking career began in Berkeley, CA, under the wing of the iconic filmmaker Marlon Riggs. Dellal's documentary features *American Gypsy* and *When the Road Bends...Tales of a Gypsy Caravan*. Both had theatrical, TV and DVD releases around the world. Now based in New York and London, Dellal is involved in all aspects of independent film work, from creation to distribution and extensive social outreach programs. For more information, please visit www.littledust.com.

Funding Credits

This program is made possible with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency.



ABOUT THE KITCHEN

The Kitchen is one of New York City's oldest nonprofit performance and exhibition spaces, showing experimental work by innovative artists, both emerging and established. Programs range from dance, music, and theatrical performances to video and media arts exhibitions to literary events, film screenings, and artists' talks. Since its inception in 1971, The Kitchen has been a powerful force in shaping the cultural landscape of this country and has helped launch the careers of many artists who have gone on to worldwide prominence.

Box Office Information:
212.255.5793 ext. 11
Tue-Sat, 2-6pm

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