

In Prison My Whole Life

(cert 15) 90 Mins UK Documentary

A FILM BY MARC EVANS

WWW.INPRISONMYWHOLELIFE.COM

The 90-minute film profiles **Mumia Abu-Jamal's** case through the eyes of 25-year-year-old **William Francome**, born on the day of Abu-Jamal's arrest. 'In Prison My Whole Life' was directed by **Marc Evans** and produced by **Livia Firth** and **Nick Goodwin Self**. The acclaimed actor **Colin Firth** is the film's executive producer. The film also features interviews with writers **Alice Walker** and **Noam Chomsky**, as well as musicians **Mos Def**, **Snoop Dogg** and **Steve Earle**.

*This is the first ever **Amnesty International** film and one of the first **MySpace** films. Will's journey, combined with incisive footage, cool graphics and a punchy soundtrack by **Massive Attack** and **Snoop Dog** - all crafted with style and energy by award-winning director **Marc Evans** (*My Little Eye*, *Snowcake*, *Trauma*) creates a film that will appeal to a broad cross-over audience,*

Credits

A Nana Films Presentation in Association with Fandango, The Maverick Lloyd Foundation, The Wales Creative IP Fund and Ivo Coulson

Directed by Marc Evans

Produced by Livia Giuggioli Firth, Nick Goodwin Self

Co-produced by Domenico Procacci

Executive Producers Arthur Berndt, Ivo Coulson, Colin Firth, Linda James

Written by Marc Evans and William Francome

Based on an Idea by William Francome and Katie Green

Editor Mags Arnold

Director of Photography Ari Issler

Graphics by Foreign Office

Original Score by Davidge/Del Naja

Original songs by Snoop Dogg

Screenings

In Prison My Whole Life is premiering at Ritzy Picturehouse in Brixton on October 23rd then released onto an additional 20 Picturehouse screens.

A national digital release is currently being booked. For all enquiries please contact:

Helen Jones on 01580 240609 / 07599 660143 / Helen@dc3m.co.uk

This film will be the recipient of a dedicated marketing campaign and promotional support your cinema will benefit from which we would be happy to assist with.

We can also arrange a guest speaker to open your screening(s) and host a Q&A to follow, as well as a support team to assist with ticket sales.

In Prison My Whole Life has the support of Amnesty International as part of it international campaign to abolish the death penalty

SYNOPSIS

William Francome is a fairly typical, white middle-class guy. Typical except for the fact that he is about to embark on a journey into the dark heart of the American judicial system; the tangled world of renowned Death Row prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal.

The connection between these two characters is a simple one, and the pretext for this film, as Will explains:

"I was born in London on December 9th 1981. Over 3000 miles away Mumia Abu-Jamal, a Black Panther and radical journalist, was arrested for the murder of a police officer in Philadelphia. He claimed he was innocent but was sentenced to death and has been awaiting execution ever since. Over the years, he has attracted massive international support from organisations like Amnesty International and world leaders like Nelson Mandela amongst others. I'm now 24 years old and in that time Mumia has become the most famous and controversial death row inmate in America".

Despite his situation, and against all odds, Mumia has managed to penetrate the consciousness of people like Will. Through his writings and his web and radio broadcasts from Death Row, he has become known to many as "the Voice of the Voiceless".

"In Prison My Whole Life" takes us to some surprising places and brings us into contact with some of America's most original minds. Never-seen-before footage and brand new evidence create a prevailing case for reasonable doubt while exploring the socio-political climate of America – past and present. Angela Davis, Mos Def, Noam Chomsky, Alice Walker, Snoop Dogg, Steve Earle, Amy Goodman and many others take us through a decades-old struggle for equality, fairness and respect that so many Americans strive for to this day.

Mumia's cause has created a political storm but after the politicians have said their piece, after the court papers have been filed and the protestors have gone home, we are left with a film about a man – a father, a son, an inspiration and a pariah - who faces his twenty-fifth year on Death Row.

Extraordinary though Mumia's story is, he is only one of 3,350 people currently on death row in the United States. This film allows him not only to speak to us, but also on behalf of those others who cannot find a voice.

"Mumia's story forms the focal point of Marc Evans' impassioned and engaging feature-doc. Using computer graphics, animation and music as well as conventional voice-over narration and interviews, In Prison My Whole Life is far livelier than its often grim subject matter may suggest." Geoffrey Macnab, Screen Daily

"... Mos Def and Snoop Dogg will appeal to younger auds ... elder stateswoman Angela Davis provides the voice of reasoned intelligence..." Jay Weissberg, Variety, Sundance Film Festival 2007

"One of the great human rights stories." Cara Mertes, Sundance Film Festival programmer. (In Prison was nominated for the Grand Jury Prize for World Cinema – Documentary, Sundance 2008)

"You just kind of have to tell the truth you know, and raise the issue that nobody's raising" Mos Def



WINNER OF THE INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS FESTIVAL, Geneva 2008