

## THE MOST CONTROVERSIAL FILM OF THE YEAR, THE UNREDACTED (JIHAD REHAB) TO SCREEN AT ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LOCATIONS

Documentary Director Meg Smaker to Participate in Q&A Sessions After Each Screening

LOS ANGELES, CA, USA, March 29, 2023 /EINPresswire.com/ -- "The UnRedacted is a movie for intelligent people looking to have their preconceived notions challenged." – The Guardian

Filmmaker Meg Smaker announced today that her highly anticipated and intensely controversial documentary "The UnRedacted (Jihad Rehab)" will screen at seven Alamo Drafthouse Cinema locations across the United States throughout April. These event screenings will feature in-depth post-screening discussions between Smaker and award-winning journalists that include author Lawrence Wright (The Looming Tower, Going Clear), Pivot host Kara Swisher, Jesse Singal, host of Blocked and Reported and Angel Eduardo, editor/writer at FIRE organization.

"I'm excited to work with Alamo Drafthouse and finally give audiences a chance to see the film for themselves and make up their own minds," says Smaker.



The UnRedacted (Jihad Rehab), directed by Meg Smaker. Movie Poster

The documentary follows a group of men trained by al-Qaeda who are transferred from Guantanamo to the world's first rehabilitation center for "terrorists" located in Saudi Arabia. Filmed over three years, with unprecedented access, it is a complex and nuanced exploration of the men we have heard so much about but never heard from.

The film originally premiered at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival under its original title, "Jihad Rehab," drawing both critical praise and <u>intense controversy</u>. Subsequent festival offers were retracted and commercial distribution interest evaporated. With no traditional distribution options available, Smaker created a GoFundMe campaign to release the film herself. After

Smaker's journey was featured on Sam Harris' podcast "Making Sense," her GoFundMe campaign exploded from \$3,000 to over \$750,000 in a matter of weeks.

Since the controversial Sundance screenings, "The UnRedacted (Jihad Rehab)" has been championed by critics and journalists as a thoughtprovoking and compelling exploration of a topic that has been the subject of much debate and discussion.

"A deeply empathic look at men who were almost completely powerless,



Image from 'The UnRedacted (Jihad Rehab)' film showing two men driving a golf cart on a road alongside the Mohammed bin Nayef Counseling and Care Center in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia."

beautifully shot and edited...two years of editing produced a film that stunned virtually everyone who saw it. Smaker's combination of access to the men, compassion for what they had gone through, and willingness to ask tough questions about their violent pasts made her film unique."

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- author <u>Sebastian Junger</u>

"A humanizing journey through a complex emotional process of self-reckoning and accountability, and a look at the devastating fallout of flawed U.S. and Saudi policy...I'm Muslim, and I like Jihab Rehab. The film took pains to understand the culture these men came from and molded them. It does a disservice to throw away a film that a lot of people should see." – Lorraine Ali, Los Angeles Times

"A remarkable documentary." – Joe Scarborough, MSNBC Morning Joe (<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AdzxUSJnJi0&t=1s</u>)

"With extraordinary access and an inquisitive temperament, filmmaker Meg Smaker embarks on an urgent quest to understand the otherized in her sharp, interrogative film." – Tomris Laffly, Variety (<u>https://variety.com/2022/film/festivals/jihad-rehab-review-1235161199/</u>)

The upcoming Alamo Drafthouse screenings offer audiences an opportunity to watch it for themselves.

Tickets for The UnRedacted are available now at: https://drafthouse.com/show/the-unredacted

New York City

Sunday, April 2, 2023 at 4:30pm & 8:00pm, 4:30pm, moderated by Jesse Singal; 8:00pm moderated by Angel Eduardo

Washington, DC Wednesday, April 5, 2023 at 7:00pm, moderated by Kara Swisher

Chicago Sunday, April 9, 2023 at 3:30pm, moderator TBC

Denver Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 6:30pm, moderator TBC

Austin Saturday, April 15, 2023 at 4:00pm, moderated by Lawrence Wright

San Antonio Sunday, April 16, 2023 at 4:30pm, moderator TBC

Los Angeles Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at 7:30pm, moderator TBC

Smaker's screening tour will also expand globally with the first stop in New Zealand, where it will make its return to the Doc Edge Film Festival on Wednesday, April 26 at the SkyCity Theatre. Smaker will participate in a post-screening panel discussion with renowned journalist Neil Waka. The film originally was featured as part of last year's Doc Edge Festival and is back this year to launch the program. Tickets and further information can be found at <u>https://docedge.nz/festival/films/the-unredacted-2023/</u>.

The film will also be screening in Castlemania, Australia on May 3, ticket information can be found at <u>https://www.trybooking.com/CHELN</u>. Additional screening information will be added to the film's website at <u>https://jihadrehab.com</u>.

For more information about the film and to watch the trailer, please visit: Website: <u>https://jihadrehab.com</u>

For more information on these events or press inquiries, please contact: CONTACT: Marc Cohen



"The UnRedacted (Jihad Rehab)" film director Meg Smaker

## E-MAIL: marc@marccohenmarketing.com

Marc Cohen Marc Cohen Marketing marc@marccohenmarketing.com Visit us on social media: Facebook Twitter YouTube Other

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