

- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -

Visit Constantine Valettas
and his remarkable family in

the exceptional Hjivatma valettas

A documentary film by Will Inrig

CANADIAN THEATRICAL PREMIERE

**Thursday, July 5, 2007 at 8:00 PM at the Canadian Film Institute Auditorium, LAC
Presented by Vibe Pictures in association with Lesser Men Productions and Will Inrig FilmP
CFI Auditorium, Library & Archives Canada, 350 Wellington St, Ottawa (Wellington & Bay)**

A charming new feature-length documentary film, an exploration of the splendid life

This is the story of 12-year-old Constantine Valettas, who dreams of becoming a professional soccer player. He idolizes his favorite players and aspires to be like them, considering soccer to be one of the finest aspects of life.

Around him is his quirky, but endearing family – George, his father, is a Greek operatic tenor and head of his own Ottawa-based opera company -- he too dreamed of soccer stardom, but his dream was never fulfilled. Gila, Constantine's mother, of Sephardic-Turkish descent, is a bit too cosmopolitan for her Canadian surroundings. She is an interpreter and photographer, with a love of high European art and urban culture. Laura, Constantine's younger sister, is a typical, sweet, young girl and is perhaps the most usual of her family members. In its entirety, the family embodies all that is good in life - home, love, family, art, athleticism, and most importantly, the power to dream.

For two months in the summer of 2006, 16-year-old filmmaker Will Inrig, a student at Ottawa's Canterbury Arts High School, set out to capture the "essence" of a family dear to his heart, the Valettases, Inrig's neighbors of eleven years. Accompanied by a cameraman and a soundman, Inrig filmed the family for a period of two months, amassing over 25 hours of footage of the family's daily life. The film presents a look into the truly splendid life of the Valettases and how one family can be exceptional beyond a doubt, yet at the same time, completely ordinary. Presented as they are, it is not the family which appears eccentric -- it is all others around them that are eccentric.

"THE EXCEPTIONAL JIVATMA VALETTAS" is Inrig's debut documentary, produced by his own label, Will Inrig Film Productions, in association with Lesser Men Productions, and released by Vibe Pictures. Inrig has previously worked on one feature-length drama "Ivannikov and the Blessed Virgin Mary", shot in the Gatineau forest in the winter of 2005. The young director will soon be turning his sights to two new projects, first another feature-documentary "Antikythera, Where God Knows Not Of", to be filmed in southern Greece this summer, followed by "The Mysterious Incident Involving the Valhora Brothers", a feature-length drama, which is being supported by the National Film Board of Canada.

A reception will follow the screening, fully catered by DISH Catering, with a piano recital by Lora Bidner (on Glenn Gould's Steinway piano). Tickets are \$15.00, with a portion of the evening's proceeds being donated to Habitat for Humanity - NCR. The film's running time is 103 minutes.

**Tickets may be purchased at the door or, to charge by phone, call
Habitat for Humanity (613.749.9950) or Vibe Pictures (613.552.5329).**
More information available at www.vibepictures.com or www.lessermen.ca.

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- 30 -



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