FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lust, Longing and Chuyen’s ADRIFT and Granaz Moussavi’s Controversial MY TEHRAN FOR SALE to Release on DVD January 31st

A charged performance by Vietnamese actress Hai Yen and Moussavi’s “hit-and-run” chronicle of Tehran’s underground art scene and a highlight winter 2012 releases

San Francisco, CA – January 26, 2012 – The Global Film Initiative is pleased to announce the DVD release of two new award-winning films from the Global Lens film series, including MY TEHRAN FOR SALE, which dominated news in 2011 following lead actress Marzieh Vafamehr’s much-publicized prison sentence for her role in the film.

ADrift (CHOI VOI), dir. Bui Thac Chuyen, Vietnam
A young wife, ignored by her immature spouse, is caught in a love triangle between her best friend and a handsome stranger during a languorous summer in Hanoi. FIPRESCI Prize, Venice International Film Festival; Official Selection of the International Film Festival Rotterdam (Bright Future).

“A subtle, melancholy exploration of erotic angst and uncomfortable awakening…Adrift evokes a culture whose puritanical restraints have begun to loosen, allowing dangerous sparks to fly. Once desire has been unleashed, smugly settling for less is no longer a comfortable option.” –The New York Times

“Beautiful, and tightly focused on the emotional, romantic, and sexual lives of men and women in Hanoi….This is new Vietnamese cinema.” –diaCRITICS

MY TEHRAN FOR SALE, dir. Granaz Moussavi, Iran
An ailing actress fighting for political asylum, and waiting to clear Australian immigration, recounts her attempts to live, work, and love in Tehran’s thriving yet turbulent arts subculture. Official Selection of the Toronto International Film Festival (Discovery Programme); Independent Spirit IF Award, Adelaide Film Festival.

“Shot undercover in Iran’s teeming capital, this brave low-budget film speaks volumes….A passionate cry for international understanding and a stirring example of hit-and-run moviemaking.” –Screen Daily

“An ode to a city under cultural siege.” –At the Movies

ADrift’s seductive portrait of adultery and sexual awakening in contemporary Hanoi created a buzz at the Toronto, Rotterdam, Pusan and Vancouver International Film Festivals, and was awarded the FIPRESCI Prize at the Venice International Film Festival in 2009. MY TEHRAN FOR SALE received widespread media attention in July 2011, when the Iranian government sentenced its lead actress, Marzieh Vafamehr, to one year in prison and 90 lashes for her role in the film. (NOTE: Following widespread protest, Vafamehr’s sentence was overturned and she was released after three months in custody, without any corporal punishment—visit http://blog.globalfilm.org/?p=2930 for more information.)

Both films toured as part of the Global Lens 2010 film series and appeared in venues, festivals and theatrical locations throughout the U.S. and Canada, including the Palm Springs International Film Festival, Mill Valley Film Festival and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. These titles are also featured on Virgin America airlines, along with other Global Lens films.

DVDs will be available for purchase through the Global Film Initiative’s website (catalogue.globalfilm.org) on January 31st. Both releases also include DVD-ROM discussion guides with director’s statements, comprehensive background information about each country’s geographical setting and history, and commentary on cultural references within each film.

For more information about upcoming DVD releases, and to download press materials and images, visit: globalfilm.org/press.htm
About the Films

**ADRIFT (CHOI VOI)**, dir. Bui Thac Chuyen, Vietnam
Soon after her wedding, newlywed Duyen’s excitement begins to fade as she realizes her young husband is not only sexually naïve, but overly occupied by his job and doting mother. As her marriage goes un consummated and her emotional isolation grows, she reaches out to her closest girlfriend, Cam, who secretly desires her, but pushes her into the arms of a dangerous and provocative suitor. The resulting sexual awakening and infidelity puts Duyen in a precarious love triangle, challenging her notions of conventional relationships and also the stability of her new family. Saturated with erotic tension, director Bui Thac Chuyen’s sensuous and absorbing second feature traces the emotional and psychological landscapes of lust and desire, weaving an atmospheric tale of love and life in modern Hanoi.

**MY TEHRAN FOR SALE**, dir. Granaz Moussavi, Iran
In this riveting, insider’s perspective on life in Iran’s capital city, Marzieh—a terminally ill actress—wearily relates her desperate quest for political asylum through a series of interviews with an unsympathetic government official. Beginning with details of her doomed relationship with an Iranian-born Australian and their plan to relocate to Adelaide, she recounts her struggle to work as an actress under Iran’s current regime, her hope for a future ultimately dashed by the devastating discovery of her illness, and her need to “escape” the only home she has ever known. Set against the backdrop of Tehran’s thriving arts culture, and framed through a series of artful and dramatic flashback sequences, poet-turned-filmmaker Granaz Moussavi boldly registers the trials of a modern woman struggling to flourish in Iran’s contemporary political climate.

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<th><strong>ADRIFT (CHOI VOI)</strong></th>
<th><strong>MY TEHRAN FOR SALE</strong></th>
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<td>Distributor: The Global Film Initiative</td>
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<td>Street date: January 31st, 2012</td>
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<td>Suggested retail price: $24.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>Region: NTSC Region 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Production year: 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rated: NR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Run time: 110 minutes</td>
<td>Run time: 95 minutes</td>
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<td>Aspect ratio: 1.85</td>
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<tr>
<td>Language: Vietnamese, with subtitles in English</td>
<td>Language: Farsi and English, with subtitles in English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonus features: Global Lens trailer, Film Discussion Guide</td>
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<td>Order online: catalogue.globalfilm.org</td>
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Upcoming releases include:

**SOUL OF SAND** *(PAIRON TALLE)*, dir. Sidharth Srinivasan, India
A watchman at an abandoned mine is drawn into a bizarre triangle after a wealthy landlord’s daughter and her lower-caste lover seek refuge from a masked killer wreaking havoc across the Indian countryside. Official Selection of the Toronto International Film Festival and International Film Festival Rotterdam (Bright Future).

“Srinivasan makes a bold break with traditional Indian art cinema...a film of extraordinarily striking aesthetics...a sharp cry for social change...urgent, relevant, artful and new.” –indiewire

**THE TENANTS** *(OS INQUILINOS)*, dir. Sérgio Bianchi, Brazil
After three mysterious men move into a smoky São Paulo suburb, a neighboring couple becomes obsessed with the men’s clandestine activities and the ozone of violence that descends upon their once-tranquil neighborhood. Best Screenplay and Best Supporting Actress, Rio de Janeiro International Film Festival; Official Selection of the Vancouver International Film Festival.

“A tour-de-force of cinematic tension...filled with off-screen suspense, gorgeously composed shots, and frame-within-frame schematics.” –BrazilNYC
Recent releases include:

**LEO’S ROOM**  
(EL CUARTO DE LEO)  
dir. Enrique Buchichio,  
Uruguay

**OCEAN OF AN OLD MAN**  
dir. Rajesh Shera,  
India

For more information about upcoming DVD releases, and to download press materials and images, visit:  
globalfilm.org/press.htm

**About Global Lens**

The Global Lens film series is an annual, curated program of narrative feature films from Africa, Asia, Central & Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Middle East. Each film in the series is selected for its authentic voice, strong cinematics and unique cultural perspective, opening a window to the diverse world in which we live. Now in its ninth year, the series continues to be a platform for exceptional storytelling. To date, more than eighty-five films from over thirty-five nations make up the award-winning and critically acclaimed Global Lens collection.

*All proceeds from the Global Lens film series support international filmmaker grants, educational programming and resources, touring film exhibitions and other philanthropic initiatives and programs sponsored by the Global Film Initiative.*

**About the Global Film Initiative**

The Global Film Initiative is a U.S.-based international arts organization specializing in the support of independent film from Africa, Asia, Central & Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Middle East. Founded in 2002 to promote cross-cultural understanding through the language of cinema, the Initiative awards numerous grants to deserving filmmakers from around the world each year, and supports a touring film series entitled Global Lens. For more information about the Global Lens film series and Global Film Initiative programs, please visit:  
www.globalfilm.org

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