

In P.O.V.'s "Made in L.A.," Three Immigrant Women Build New Lives While Fighting for Justice

2009-08-08

Emmy Award-Winning Film Puts a Human Face on the Issue of Immigration as Leaders Work Towards Comprehensive Reform; Film Continues to Screen in Local Settings Around the Country

LOS ANGELES - An encore presentation of the Emmy Award-winning feature documentary *Made in L.A.* will air on the PBS "POV" series this August (check local listings). At a time when leaders are working on a major overhaul of the immigration system, *Made in L.A.* offers a revealing look at the human side of the immigration debate.

Made in L.A., bilingual in English and Spanish, follows the remarkable story of three Latina immigrants working in Los Angeles garment sweatshops as they embark on a three-year odyssey to win basic labor protections from a trendy clothing retailer. "When we started this film, we did not anticipate that the garment workers' campaign would take three years and that the story would take a deeper turn," says director Almudena Carracedo.

"Struggles cause people to change, and we were amazed to observe each woman's growing sense of self-confidence and self-worth," she continues. "The boycott campaign served as a catalyst for each of them, in her own way, to stand up, to say, 'I exist. And I have rights.' " Compelling, humorous and deeply human, *Made in L.A.* is a story about immigration, the power of unity, and the courage it takes to find your voice.

Made in L.A. was recently awarded the prestigious Hillman Prize for Broadcast Journalism, was nominated for the National Council of La Raza's Alma Award, and was screened by leaders on Capitol Hill. Community, faith-based and student organizations are currently screening *Made in L.A.* around the country to highlight sweatshop issues and put a human face on the immigration debate.

"Much like the struggle of the women in *Made in L.A.* to fight for their rights as immigrant workers, to make a life in the U.S. and to provide a better future for their children, generations of immigrants from all over the world have come to the U.S. for the same reasons", says *Made in L.A.* producer/writer Robert Bahar. "The struggles are the same," he says, commenting on a scene where one of the women visits New York's Tenement Museum in and Ellis Island. In a telling moment, she exclaims, "Everything remains the same!"

Check local listings or your local PBS station's website for the exact time and date. For more information on the film go to www.MadeinLA.com or www.pbs.org/pov/madeinla. *Made in L.A.* is a co-production of Semilla Verde Productions, Inc., the Independent Television Service (ITVS) and P.O.V.'s Diverse Voices Project (made possible through major funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting). A co-presentation with Latino Public Broadcasting.

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