

Boulder International Film Festival

FEBRUARY 11-14 2010



great stories move mountains + change our world

BOLD SPIRIT

INDEPENDENT FILM

46 Films, 31 filmmakers

Great films, parties & panels

Tickets on sale now at BIFF1.com or 303.786.7030

Tibet in Song PROGRAM 2 - Thursday, February 11, 4:30 p.m., The Church

Tibet, Feature Documentary, 2009, 86 min

Winner of the Sundance Film Festival 2009: Documentary

"Tibetan folk songs are not just a form of art, they are like a precious treasure hidden under the earth. We learn through these songs everything there is to know about the Tibetan people ... and ourselves." Ngawang Choephel

One of the most dramatic and daring films of the decade, *Tibet in Song* follows young Fulbright scholar Ngawang Choephel back to his native Tibet to document the country's disappearing folk-singing tradition. While leaving Tibet to go home, he was arrested for espionage by the Chinese, tortured and served seven horrific years in prison. Seven of Choephel's videotapes were confiscated at the time, but nine were smuggled out. From this footage, he draws a never-before-seen glimpse into customs far outside the country's population centers. Music is more than a pastime for these rural Tibetans: it's a joyous, integral part of life, setting the rhythm and spirit of every conceivable activity. Choephel, like any good anthropologist, not only documents performances of the Tibetan folk songs, but also the sometimes-surprising explanations of the songs from the laconic older generations of Tibetans living in the villages. Subtitled and narrated by Richard Gere.

Directed by Ngawang Choephel

Boulder Premiere

To view full program, go to www.biff1.com/biff2010_program_viewer.html