



makes you think

## media release

### ROCK STARS OF PHILOSOPHY CAP TVO'S *BELONG OR BUST WHERE DO I FIT IN?* WITH THE PREMIERE OF *EXAMINED LIFE*

- **World broadcast premiere of filmmaker Astra Taylor's feature documentary airs Sunday March 29 at 9 pm on TVO**

**Toronto, March 25, 2009** – Can the meaning of life be found in the back of a cab, or on a bustling Manhattan sidewalk, or even in the middle of a garbage dump? Filmmaker Astra Taylor energizes philosophical discussion by taking it out of the classrooms and into the streets with her feature-length documentary, *Examined Life* in which some of the world's most formidable minds take part in intimate and engaging conversations. The film airs March 29 at 9 pm and is the closing program of TVO's *Belong or Bust: Where Do I Fit In?* - a week of premiere documentaries, dramas and current affairs programs that explore themes of belonging and identity.

"When I tell people here in the U.S. that our film will be on TV they're stunned in a good way," says Astra Taylor. "They might expect to see it in a few theatres but not on TV and there's nothing like TVO here. We're so happy to be bringing it to TVO and that so many people will have a chance to see it."

Canadian-born, U.S.-raised Astra Taylor, named one of *Filmmaker Magazine's* "25 New Faces to Watch", presents each of her subjects in a different cityscape while conveying the wonder and curiosity that drive philosophical thought. Peter Singer's thoughts on consumption resonate against a backdrop of high-end retail shops in Manhattan; Judith Butler and Sunuara Taylor talk about individuality in San Francisco; while riding in a cab Cornell West compares his thinking process to playing jazz or blues; and Slavoj Zizek, the subject of Taylor's debut film (*Zizek!*), illustrates his views on the environment while surrounded by piles of garbage.

Similarly Avital Ronell, Kwame Anthony Appiah, Martha Nussbaum, and Michael Hardt convey their ideas while on easy-going excursions through places and spaces that have meaning for them. Through these talks the film inspires us to think critically about ourselves and our place in our communities and society.

#### **About TVO:**

TVO is Ontario's public educational media organization and a trusted source of interactive educational content that informs, inspires and stimulates curiosity and thought. TVO's vision is to empower people to be engaged citizens of Ontario through educational media. For more information, visit [www.tvo.org](http://www.tvo.org).

**Where to find TVO:** Cable subscribers channel 2 (channel may vary in some areas), Bell TV subscribers: Channel 265, Star Choice subscribers: Channel 353. For more information on these and other programs and services, visit [www.tvo.org](http://www.tvo.org).

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