



May 10, 2010

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**Beacon Institute to screen *Earth Days: The seeds of a revolution*,
PBS American Experience documentary**

***Thursday, May 20, 7 pm: Screening, followed by Q&A with Robert Stone,
Rhinebeck filmmaker***

Beacon, NY—Beacon Institute proudly presents a free, local screening of Rhinebeck filmmaker Robert Stone's documentary *Earth Days: The seeds of a revolution*. The film, which premiered in April for Earth Day as part of PBS's American Experience series, will be screened at Beacon Institute's Center for Environmental Innovation and Education (CEIE) on Thursday, May 20 at 7 pm. Q&A with Robert Stone will follow. A capacity audience is expected for this free event. Guests are strongly encouraged to pre-register www.bire.org.

Earth Days looks back to the dawn and development of the modern environmental movement—from its post-war rustlings in the 1950s and the 1962 publication of Rachel Carson's incendiary bestseller *Silent Spring*, to the first wildly successful 1970 Earth Day celebration and the subsequent firestorm of political action. The film's secret weapon is a one-two punch of personal testimony and rare archival media. The extraordinary stories of the era's pioneers—among them Former Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall; biologist/Population Bomb author Paul Ehrlich; Whole Earth Catalog founder Stewart Brand; Apollo Nine astronaut Rusty Schweickart; and renewable energy pioneer Hunter Lovins—are beautifully illustrated with an incredible array of footage from candy-colored Eisenhower-era tableaux to classic tear-jerking 1970s anti-litterbug PSAs.

Earth Days is both a poetic meditation on humanity's complex relationship with nature and an engaging history of the revolutionary achievements—and missed opportunities of groundbreaking eco-activism.

About Robert Stone

[Robert Stone](#) is a multi-award-winning, Oscar-nominated and Emmy-nominated documentary filmmaker. Born in England in 1958, he grew up in both Europe and America. After graduating with a degree in history from the University of Wisconsin/Madison, he moved to New York City

in 1983 determined to pursue a career in filmmaking. He gained considerable recognition for his first film, "["RADIO BIKINI"](#) (1987) which premiered at Sundance and was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Feature Documentary. Multi-tasking as a producer, director, writer, editor and sometimes cameraman, he has over the last 20 years developed a steady international reputation with a range of unique and critically acclaimed feature-documentaries about American history, pop-culture and the mass media. His more recent and perhaps best-known work includes "["GUERRILLA: The Taking of Patty Hearst"](#) (2004), which premiered at Sundance and went on to become one of the most highly acclaimed theatrical documentaries of the year. This was followed by the documentary feature "["OSWALD'S GHOST"](#) (2007) for which Stone earned his second Emmy nomination for Outstanding Achievement in Non-Fiction Filmmaking.

"GUERRILLA" and "OSWALD'S GHOST" were recently cited by Entertainment Weekly as "two of the most explosively insightful documentaries of the last decade." His latest film, "["EARTH DAYS"](#) premiered as the Closing Night Film at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival and was released theatrically by Zeitgeist Films to wide critical acclaim. He continues to create personally crafted high-end documentary films from his home in the Hudson Valley of New York, where he lives with his wife Melissa and their two sons.

About Beacon Institute

Beacon Institute for Rivers and Estuaries, with offices in Beacon and Troy, New York, is a not-for-profit environmental research organization engaging scientists, engineers, educators and policy experts in collaborative work focusing on real-time monitoring of river ecosystems. It aims to make the Hudson Valley a global center for scientific and technological innovation that advances research, education and public policy regarding rivers and estuaries. www.bire.org

[Download Beacon Institute's full 2010 events calendar here.](#)

Editor's Note: High resolution color images are available for publication upon request. Please contact Kathleen Hickey at 845-838-1600 x15.

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