

**2011 PUMA.Creative Impact Award: Finalist Biographies**

**Director of *Age of Stupid*, Franny Armstrong**

Former pop drummer and self-taught filmmaker, Franny Armstrong has directed three feature documentaries - *The Age of Stupid* (2008), *McLibel* (2005) and *Drowned Out* (2003) - which have together been seen by 60 million people on TV, cinema, internet and DVD worldwide.  Through her company, Spanner Films, Franny pioneered ‘crowd-funding’, which allows filmmakers to raise reasonable-size budgets whilst retaining ownership of their films; *Age of Stupid* is the most successful known example, raising £800,000+ from 300+ investors – and the Indie Screenings distribution system. In September 2009, Franny founded the 10:10 campaign which aims to cut carbon emissions by 10% in one year and which now has autonomous campaigns running in 41 countries. Participants include: Microsoft, Spurs FC, 120,000 people, 1,500 schools, a third of local councils, the entire UK Government, the Prime Minister and the cities of Paris, Oslo, Brighton, Marseille and Mexico City. Franny is a Londoner born and bred.



**Director of *Burma VJ*, Anders Østergaard**



Born in 1965 in Copenhagen, Anders Østergaard trained at Central Television, London in 1988 and graduated from the Danish School of Journalism in Aarhus, Denmark in 1991. Østergaard has worked as a copywriter and strategic adviser at Jersild & Co., an advertising agency specializing in social and political campaigns, and as a freelance researcher and assistant director for the documentary units of DR TV and

TV 2/DANMARK.   
  
In 2003, he directed the international film, *Tin Tin and Me*. His break-through film, *Gasolin*, which opened March 10, 2006 in Denmark, is currently the country's most successful theatrically released documentary and one of the top Danish releases of the year. It tells the story of the famous Danish rock band Gasolin. In 2008, he directed *Burma VJ* which won more than 50 festival prizes across the world. *Burma VJ* has been shown in 120 countries worldwide.

**Director of *The End of the Line*, Rupert Murray**

Rupert Murray directed and edited *Unknown White Male*, which was shortlisted for the Oscars and nominated for awards at the Directors Guild of America Awards, the Grierson Awards and the British Independent Film Awards. The film tells the story of a man’s struggle in coming to terms with amnesia. It premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and aired on Channel 4 and Court TV.



In June 2009 *The End of the Line* was first released in cinemas. The film won a One World Media Award and was nominated for a Grierson Award. Also in 2009, Murray directed a feature length documentary called *Olly and Suzi: Two of a Mind*, a film about two artists who paint dangerous predators in the wild. His latest film, *Meet the Climate Sceptics,* was broadcast in early 2011.

**Director of *The Reckoning: The Battle for the International Criminal Court*, Pamela Yates**



Pamela Yates was born and raised in the Appalachian coal-mining region of Pennsylvania, US. Yates is a co-founder of Skylight Pictures, dedicated to creating films and digital media tools that advance awareness of human rights and the quest for justice by implementing multi-year outreach campaigns designed to engage, educate and activate social change.

She is currently working on a quartet of films about transitional justice. The first, *State of Fear* based on the findings of the Peruvian Truth Commission, was translated into 47 languages and broadcast in 154 countries. The second film, *The Reckoning: The Battle for the International Criminal Court* is an international thriller about the possibilities and pitfalls facing humanity’s quest for world justice. *Granito: How To Nail A Dictator*, the third film, revisits the subjects of her 1982 film *When the Mountains Tremble* after the film and its outtakes become forensic evidence in an international war crimes case.

**Directors and Producers of *Trouble The Water*, Tia Lessin and Carl Deal**

Tia Lessin & Carl Deal produced and directed Oscar-nominated *Trouble the Water*, winner of the Gotham Independent Film Award and the Sundance Grand Jury Prize. They were producers of Michael Moore’s *Fahrenheit 9/11*, *Bowling for Columbine* and *Capitalism*: *A Love Story*.



Tia line produced Martin Scorsese’s *No Direction Home: Bob Dylan,* and her work producing the groundbreaking satirical documentary series *The Awful Truth*,earned her two Emmy nominations and one arrest. She also received the Sidney Hillman broadcast journalism award for *Behind the Labels*, a film she directed and produced about labour trafficking in the garment industry*.*

Carl previously worked as an international news producer and writer, reporting from natural disasters and conflict zones in the US, Latin America, and in Iraq. He has written investigative reports for Greenpeace, Amnesty International and Public Citizen. Tia and Carl are members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.