



Q&A MIREILLE ENOS

WILD HORSES is just 19 minutes long, but it has an enduring impact. The film—a Palm Springs International ShortFest winner—covers one day in the lives of two women who witness a wild horse roundup.

While the characters are fictional, the story is based on a harsh reality. Every year, thousands of American mustangs are rounded up by government agents and contractors under pressure from ranchers and mining

companies. The “lucky” ones are kept in long-term holding pastures or adopted by kind people. But thousands languish in bleak corrals, and many end up in foreign slaughterhouses. In 2012, *Wild Horses* director and co-writer Stephanie Martin documented two roundups in Nevada, where she saw foals being forced to run 20 miles in intense heat and horses driven into barbed wire.

A lifelong horse lover who plans to make a feature film on the topic, Martin recruited acclaimed actress Mireille Enos—known for her work in *The Killing* and *World War Z*—for the film’s lead role. Enos plays a celebrity photographer named Mills who returns to her Nevada hometown when she learns the wild horses she’s known since childhood are in danger. As Mills and her grandmother follow government helicopters across the Nevada flatlands, they agonize about how they far they will go to save the animals they love.

In this edited interview, Enos describes why she hopes *Wild Horses* will move people to take action.

Before making this film, did you know about the issues surrounding wild horse roundups? I had no idea that there were still wild horses in the states. Or that they were being actively hunted down. I was shocked to learn that their care had been put into the hands of those who directly benefit from removing them from the land. It seems to be the story of the world that greed, gain, and heartlessness rule over the meek.

What was your most memorable moment while filming? Getting to kneel down in front of that beautiful, powerful horse and have him nuzzle my hand was thrilling.

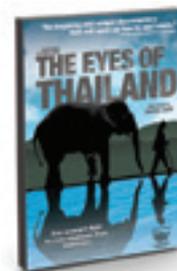
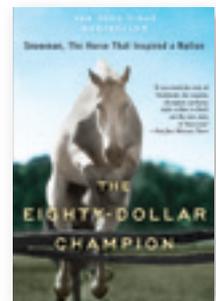
What inspired you to volunteer your time to this film? I grew up with animals. They were my companions, playmates, and comforters. Growing up in Texas, I had a number of opportunities to ride when I was young, but I hadn’t been around horses in years. They are such majestic, beautiful animals. I was moved by Stephanie Martin’s dedication to their cause. And by the idea that no living thing should be abused.

▶ **VIEW THE TRAILER** and learn more at wildhorsethefilm.com.

“BUT ONE OF THE

horses stood quietly, crammed up against the truck’s side, seeming to pay no mind to the chaos around him. ... Harry saw one eye looking at him.

Asking.” Thus begins the relationship between an immigrant farmer and a beat-up horse who stands in the back of a truck bound for slaughter. In *The Eighty-Dollar Champion*, Elizabeth Letts recounts the true story of Snowman, the former plow horse who in 1958 wowed Madison Square Garden and became a national show jumping champion. It’s a heart-warming tale of a man and a horse who succeeded against all odds more than half a century ago. It’s also a reminder that too many horses, deserving of a second chance, are still sent to slaughter today.



WHEN SHE WAS 8,

Soraida Salwala saw an injured elephant dying on the streets. She couldn’t understand why the animal wasn’t taken to a hospital to heal. As an adult, Salwala decid-

ed to address that injustice: In 1993 she founded Friends of the Asian Elephant, which operates an elephant hospital in Lampang, Thailand. *The Eyes of Thailand*, recipient of an HSUS grant for documentary filmmaking, is an inspirational look at Salwala’s work and the plight of the elephant victims of land mines. Two survivors, Motala and Mosha, are at the heart of the film, along with the caretakers who dedicate themselves to a decade-long pursuit of elephant-size prostheses. The elephant is “a big creature with a big heart,” says Salwala, “but they need our care.”

▶ **READ MORE** about the film, which is narrated by Ashley Judd, and order the DVD at eyesofthailand.com.