



# AMAZING GRACE

DIRECTED BY **SYDNEY POLLACK**

## SYNOPSIS:

IN JANUARY OF 1972, ACADEMY AWARD WINNING DIRECTOR SYDNEY POLLACK DOCUMENTED THE RECORDING OF A LIVE ALBUM AT THE NEW TEMPLE MISSIONARY CHURCH IN LOS ANGELES, CA.

THE ALBUM SOLD OVER 2 MILLION COPIES, AND BROUGHT BACK TO THE CHURCH...

## **ARETHA FRANKLIN - THE QUEEN OF SOUL.**

WHILE THE ALBUM BECAME HER BEST SELLING RECORD OF ALL TIME, THE FILM HAS NEVER BEEN SEEN.

UNTIL NOW....

**AMAZING GRACE**  
A FILM BY **SYDNEY POLLACK**

## PRODUCER, EXECUTIVE : **ALAN ELLIOTT**

In 2007, after learning of the original documentary filming through Jerry Wexler and Sydney Pollack, Alan Elliott acquired the rights to Pollack's 1972 footage of Aretha Franklin's live concert recording of "Amazing Grace" from Warner Bros. The album "Amazing Grace" went double platinum and remains the best-selling record of Ms. Franklin's career. The concert film will be completed posthumously in Pollack's honor in 2011.

As a composer and producer, Mr. Elliott has worked Warner Bros., Atlantic and Dreamworks Records with artists such as Prince, Miles Davis, George Clinton, and Paul Simon. Elliott has composed, orchestrated and arranged scores for the films "Secret Window", "Hitch", "Let's Go To Prison", as well as for recording artists Beck, Jamiroquai, and Supergrass, and numerous works for television. For the theatre, Mr. Elliot has been a creative consultant for Paul Simon's "The Capeman", Randy Newman's "Faust" and Larry Gelbart's Tony Award Winning "City of Angels"

## CONTACT:

**Alan Elliot**  
alan@alanelliott.net  
(323) 988-9692

**Chiemi Karasawa**  
chiemi@isotopefilms.com  
(212) 941-4090

This never-before-seen 1972 concert of Aretha Franklin's "Amazing Grace" album includes behind the scenes footage of Sydney Pollack, as well as the legendary Rev. James Cleveland, Rev. C.L. Franklin, and Mick Jagger.

*"Watching this is like seeing*

*the Sistine Chapel as it was being painted."*

– David Ritz, Award-winning Music Author "Rhythm and the Blues"

## FEATURE DOCUMENTARY IN POST-PRODUCTION:

80 Minutes, English, Directed by Sydney Pollack

## PRODUCER : **CHIEMI KARASAWA**

Ms. Karasawa began Isotope Films in 2005 to produce content based on true stories. Since, she has produced and co-produced several award-winning documentaries, most notably Ellen Kuras' Emmy Award winning film "The Betrayal", Jennifer Venditti's "Billy The Kid", and Spike Jonze's "Tell Them Anything You Want: A Portrait of Maurice Sendak" for HBO. With a career in feature film, commercial and television production that spans 20 years, she has worked alongside such filmmakers as: Jim Jarmusch, Steven Frears, Spike Jonze, and Martin Scorsese. Most recently she has completed feature documentaries, "Elevate", and "Love Etc" which will be released theatrically in July 2011.

## FILMMAKERS' CUMULATIVE AWARDS:

**Emmy Award 2009** "Exceptional Merit in Non-Fiction Filmmaking",

**Oscar Nominee 2008** "Best Documentary" 2008,

**Winner Best Documentary 2008:** SXSU,

Los Angeles FF, Edinburgh Int'l Film Festival.

**Audience Award 2010** – Hamptons Int'l Film Festival,

**Audience Award 2008** - Melbourne Int'l FF