

PLAYBACK

Ric Esther Bienstock doc wins Edward R. Murrow Award

By Etan Vlesing
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Tales From the Organ Trade, writer/director Ric Esther Bienstock's documentary about the shadowy world of black market organ trafficking, has earned a prestigious Edward R. Murrow Award. The film from Associated Producers for Global Television, Canal D and HBO in the U.S. is to receive the honour from the Overseas Press Club of America on Thursday night in New York City.

The Edward R. Murrow Award for best documentary about international affairs is Bienstock's second after an earlier film about human trafficking, *Sex Slaves*, won the same prestigious prize in 2007.

"It's an incredible feeling to have your work recognized by the best of the best in American journalism," Bienstock told *Playback Daily*.

She added *Tales From the Organ Trade* succeeded in dispelling myths about a shadowy global black market trade in human body parts to tell the real story.

"What I discovered while making this film was a morally complex world that forced me to question my own ethical assumptions. And I'm so proud that this effort is being recognized with the Edward R. Murrow Award," Bienstock said.

Tales From The Organ Trade has screened at over 40 film festivals around the world, and earned six festival awards, including the Amnesty International Award from the Human Rights Film Festival of San Sebastian Spain and a nomination for a Realscreen Award.

The Canadian documentary aired on HBO in November 2013, and in Quebec on Canal D.

Global Television is set to air *Tales From the Organ Trade* in English Canada.

The film was produced by Bienstock, Felix Golubev and Simcha Jacobovici.