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## **Academy Award Winning Filmmaker To Speak At UNC-Chapel Hill**

On Tuesday April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm, filmmaker, activist and grassroots organizer Barbara Trent will present the Academy Award winning documentary, *The Panama Deception* on the UNC Chapel Hill campus in the Hanes Art Center, Room 121 (next to Ackland Art Museum). *The Panama Deception, produced by Barbara Trent and David Kasper*, reveals the untold story of the 1989 US invasion of Panama, the shocking events of the assault, and the true motivation for the invasion, explaining how and why the mainstream media collaborated with the US government to deceive the American public. It is a poignant and alarming reflection of what is unfolding today.

Ms Trent will discuss the film as a springboard for analyzing current domestic and international events as well as an illuminating case study of government deception and media disinformation. Her presentation inspires audiences to see through “the official story” to expose the deceptions threatening our global community and our living planet. Ms. Trent helps audiences to find alternative perspectives and grassroots movements. and reminds us all of the immense power we each have to create change.

Doors open at 6:30 with filmmakers Barbara Trent, David Kasper and the Oscar on hand to greet the audience. The screening is sponsored by the Carolina Union Activities Board, the Institute for the Study of the Americas, Feminist Students United and the Empowerment Project.

Ms. Trent will be available for press interviews from March 10<sup>th</sup> through April 2<sup>nd</sup> at [919-967-3966](tel:919-967-3966) or [project4@mindspring.com](mailto:project4@mindspring.com).

A seasoned activist and filmmaker, Barbara Trent won her Oscar in 1993 with filmmaking partner, David Kasper, for *The Panama Deception*. Together they have directed and produced many important films including *Waging Peace*, *Destination Nicaragua*, and *Coverup: Behind the Iran-Contra Affair*. They have publicly exposed criminal activities in the White House, Pentagon, and CIA.

Trent, a former welfare mother and trailblazer for change, has been the target of at least three FBI counter-intelligence operations, was appointed as an Expert Senior Training Specialist for the VISTA Program under Jimmy Carter, was decorated with the Gasper Octavio Hernandez Award by the Journalist’s Union in Panama, and is a recipient of the American Humanist Association’s Arts Award for her “courageous advocacy of progressive ideas.”

Kasper and Trent direct the Empowerment Project (EP), based in Chapel Hill, NC, which produces and distributes its own documentary films and videos, and provides support for independent producers, artists, activists and organizations to further important social, political and artistic purposes. EP has recently founded Old Oak Homestead, a five-acre homestead that provides training in homesteading skills and renewable energy options as a means to create sustainable communities, and further organic growing methods. For more information, visit [www.empowermentproject.org](http://www.empowermentproject.org).

PRESS PHOTOS

Barbara Trent



David Kasper and Barbara Trent





BARBARA TRENT, with Refugee Camp directors, in confrontation with U.S. MP attempting to terminate the shoot . Panama, June 1990

Photo : Julio Cesar Guerra D.



The neighborhood of El Chorrillo after the invasion. Panama , December 1989.

Photo : Julio Cesar Guerra D.