

**LA FILMMAKER CHOSEN TO PRESENT HER FILM:
“GOD AND ALLAH NEED TO TALK”
TO WORLD RELIGIOUS GATHERING IN BARCELONA**

May 20, 2004, Los Angeles:

LA filmmaker Ruth Broyde-Sharone has been selected to make an interfaith presentation and show her film GOD AND ALLAH NEED TO TALK, at the fourth Parliament of the World’s Religions, to be held July 7-14 in Barcelona, Spain. Broyde-Sharone’s interfaith proposal was one of 360 ultimately selected from over 1,500 submissions in a highly competitive screening process.

About ten thousand people are expected to participate in this unique interfaith world gathering whose theme this year is: *“Pathways to Peace: the wisdom of listening, the power of commitment.”*

GOD AND ALLAH NEED TO TALK, a Film for Healing and Reconciliation, premiered last September in Los Angeles at the Laemmle Fairfax Theatre to a standing-room-only crowd of over 400. Since then the film has been screened for enthusiastic audiences in various parts of the city: in mosques, churches, synagogues, at the University of Southern California and, most recently, at IMAN (the Iranian American Muslim Culture Center of Los Angeles).

The filmmaker has asked two other Angelinos to take part in her interfaith presentation in Barcelona: singer/performer, Stefani Valadez, and a former Catholic Priest, Dr. Thomas Hedberg, the founder and director of the LA Center for Sacred Psychology.

Broyde-Sharone says she feels deeply honored to be able to show her film and make an interfaith presentation to a world forum. “After our trauma of 9/11, and with the ongoing violence in the Middle East,” she explains, “we desperately need tools to create a safe environment for dialogue that will lead to healing and reconciliation among all the religions.”

She will introduce a five-part model that can be duplicated by other communities around the globe, a model that includes networking, music, film, interfaith dialogue and what she considers the most crucial part, “the call to action.” At the conclusion of each interfaith encounter she organizes, the filmmaker issues a challenge to the participants: “Now it’s time for you to do something that makes you uncomfortable. You must be willing to welcome the stranger and to be the stranger.”

God/Allah is always talking to us, but are we talking to one another?