



The Optimists



A film by Jacky and Lisa Comforty



www.TheOptimists.com

How were 50,000 Bulgarian Jews saved from the Holocaust despite the intense efforts of their government to deport them? **The Optimists** tells the dramatic story of how people of all ethnic backgrounds and religions at the eleventh hour, secured the safety of their Jewish neighbors.

"The Optimists is a wonderful film. The title refers not only to a Bulgarian jazz band, but to how the audience feels after watching such a moving testament to human decency."

– Annette Insdorf, author of *Indelible Shadows: Film and the Holocaust*

"The Optimists, in a beautiful and dramatic way, tells what a community in *extremis* can do to help others in distress. It is a powerful and heartwarming story which deserves to be seen and discussed."

– Rabbi Peter Knobel, Beth Emet Free Synagogue

"This is a film that celebrates the human spirit. It offers hope that people of different races and religions can learn to live together in peace."

– Leora Eren Frucht, *Jerusalem Post*

"This film teaches how commitment to justice and respect for others can triumph over oppression. A must-see for anyone learning or teaching the Holocaust."

– Dr. Shani Beth-Halachmy, Professor of Educational Psychology, National College of Education

"A rare documentary . . . compact and elegant"

– Dana Stevens, *New York Times*

★★★ **"A miraculous sharp movie"**

– Patrick Z. McGavin, *Chicago Tribune*

★★★ **"Uplifting documentary . . . fascinating story"**

– Ken Fox, *TV Guide*

★★★ **"Individuals triumph over odds in inspiring 'Optimists'"**

– Hedy Weiss, *Chicago Sun Times*

★★★ **"Spellbinding. A message of inspiration and hope"**

– Bruce Ingram, *Pioneer Press*

Starting Friday, March 17th, 2006

Regal 18

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and

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