



**BAM and Amazon Studios co-present *Reel Impact*—a film and dialogue series exploring current social issues**

**Launching Oct 10 with *Crown Heights*, series uses films as a catalyst for conversations with social activists, creative voices, and leading thinkers on complex issues**

**September 20, 2017/Brooklyn, NY**—BAM and Amazon Studios will partner for the first time on a program that ignites thought-provoking discussions of social issues and enables community connections to facilitate change. *Reel Impact*, a series of films and discussions with local activists, artists, and leaders of progressive organizations will run from Oct, 2017 to June, 2018. The program will feature both new and repertory films looking at individual narratives of struggle and activism at the local, national, and global levels. The films and facilitated panel and audience conversations look beyond the headlines to further discussion and action on some of today's most urgent social and political issues.

BAM President Katy Clark said, "We are thrilled to present this new program with Amazon Studios. It allows a deep-dive into complex social issues, and unites the efforts of several areas of our organization—humanities, community engagement, and cinema. *Reel Impact* also speaks to BAM's long history as a gathering place for an exchange of ideas and viewpoints."

*Reel Impact* begins on Oct 10 with a screening of director Matt Ruskin's *Crown Heights* at BAM Rose Cinemas. A discussion of the film's harrowing subject, wrongful imprisonment, follows the film and includes Carl King, whose real-life efforts to exonerate Colin Warner are the basis of *Crown Heights*; Rodney Roberts (Innocence Project's Speakers' Bureau); Debora Silverman (senior staff attorney, Brooklyn Defender Services); and discussion facilitator Grace Ali (founder and editorial director of *Of Note* magazine). Tickets (\$15/\$10 for BAM Members) are on sale beginning Sept 21 at BAM.org or at the BAM Rose Cinemas box office.

The program's next film and dialogue participants will be announced in October, with writer/social justice advocate Darnell L. Moore (host of Mic's digital series *The Movement*) to serve as discussion facilitator for several events.

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