



OSMOSIS

For Immediate Release

APPIAN WAY PRODUCTIONS  
TEAMS UP WITH OSMOSIS GLOBAL AND ABRAMORAMA  
FOR LATE SUMMER NORTH AMERICAN THEATRICAL RELEASE OF  
JOSHUA ZEMAN'S AWARD-WINNING DOCUMENTARY  
*CHECKPOINT ZOO*

New York, NY, Los Angeles, CA, London, United Kingdom – April 30, 2025 -- Abramorama announced today that Appian Way Productions is coming on board for the North American theatrical release of Joshua Zeman's gripping documentary *Checkpoint Zoo*, joining UK's Noah Media Group and NYC-based Ghost Robot. Osmosis Global has boarded the award-winning film to handle worldwide sales. Abramorama has acquired North American theatrical release rights. An audience and critical favorite, *Checkpoint Zoo* documents a daring rescue led by a heroic team of zookeepers and volunteers, who risked their lives to save thousands of animals trapped in a zoo behind enemy lines during the initial days of the Russian Invasion of Ukraine.

A specialized North American theatrical release will kick off in New York City and is set for late Summer, with screenings hosted by the director and special quests planned nationwide. Additional screening affiliates and large screen release partners to be announced.

The release will come on the heels of *Checkpoint Zoo's* ongoing festival run where the film continues to rack up a string of impressive wins after its Tribeca Festival premiere – winning Audience awards at several festivals including at the Tribeca, Mill Valley, Palm Springs, Sonoma and Salem Film Festivals. Most recently *Checkpoint Zoo* won Jury awards at the Miami, Annapolis and Minneapolis, St. Paul Film Festivals.

Director Joshua Zeman adds, "As a filmmaker, it's so rare to find a story that is so uplifting – so hopeful— that it brings tears to your eyes. That's the power of stories about animals. Watching these men and women, dodging bombs while carrying a lion to safety – it restores your faith in humanity. I think audiences are craving these types of stories right now – stories about real-life heroes who embody empathy, compassion, and selflessness."

Noah Media Group Co-Founder and Director Torquil Jones said, "It's been a real pleasure to support Joshua and his team over the last two years to help craft this compelling, hypnotic and inspirational film. *Checkpoint Zoo* is a visceral thrill-ride that should be seen on the biggest screen possible, and we are delighted that audiences in North America will get that opportunity later this year."

Abramorama CEO Karol Martesko-Fenster adds, "Abramorama is thrilled to be collaborating with the team behind *Checkpoint Zoo* to bring this powerful testament of resilience to the big screen. It is amazing to see compassionate humans relocate a diverse group of animals large and small amidst constant turmoil and destruction."

Osmosis Global President Eli Shibley commented, "If you missed the memo, Joshua Zeman is a filmmaker you should know and we couldn't be more thrilled to work with him, Leonardo DiCaprio, and this fabulous ensemble of creative storytellers to introduce *Checkpoint Zoo* to viewers in the US and around the globe. Already a festival darling, the documentary and its heroic cast win with all audiences and we'll be announcing US and International premiere partners in the weeks to come."

Most recently Joshua Zeman directed *The Loneliest Whale: The Search for 52* which was produced by Appian Way Productions. Zeman directed Netflix's *The Son of Sam: A Descent into Darkness* and *Murder Mountain*, and his directorial debut film *Cropsey* is considered one of the top true crime documentaries of the past two decades.

CHECKPOINT ZOO (United States, 107 Minutes – English/Ukrainian/Russian). Abramorama presents a Ghost Robot in association with Noah Media Group Limited and Appian Way production of a Joshua Zeman film "Checkpoint Zoo". Executive Producers Barry Smith, Catherine Quantschnigg, Gabriel Clarke, John McKenna, Bonamy Grimes, Executive Producers Jennifer Davisson, Phillip Watson and Leonardo DiCaprio. Executive Producer Shawn Singh. Cinematographers Nelson Hume, Oliver Sarbil, Original Score Anne Nikitin. Editors Cy Christiansen, Andrew Ford BFE, Kelly Kendrick, Daniel Lonsbury. Produced by Ian Davies, Torquil Jones. Produced by Zachary Mortensen, Joshua Zeman. Directed by Joshua Zeman. An Abramorama North American Theatrical Release. For more information visit [www.checkpointzoo.com](http://www.checkpointzoo.com)

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#### ABOUT NOAH MEDIA GROUP

Noah Media Group is an EMMY-winning and BAFTA-nominated production and technology company based in London.

With a global reputation for delivering the highest quality factual content, Noah Media Group specialize in feature documentaries and docuseries, focusing on extraordinary stories. Current and past productions include I'm Carl Lewis! – co-produced with Uninterrupted and Nike, which premiered at SXSW in 2025, Snow Leopard Sisters - which also premiered at SXSW in 2025, the Netflix Original 14 Peaks: Nothing Is Impossible, Hatton (Sky), Villeneuve Pironi (Sky & HBO Max), Finding Jack Charlton (BBC - UK Broadcast documentary of the year) and Bobby Robson: More Than A Manager (Netflix).

#### ABOUT GHOST ROBOT

Ghost Robot was founded in 2005 by independent film producers Zachary Mortensen and Mark De Pace. Driven to create a stable foundation for creative storytelling, they designed a content studio based around a slate of young, innovative directors. They utilized short-form media to grow a brand and create content with a distinct creative voice. Over the past 20+ years, the studio has established itself as an industry leader in creative production for world-class brands and independent original content. Its body of award-winning work is instantly recognizable and admired by creators, clients, and audiences alike.

#### ABOUT APPIAN WAY

Since its launch, Appian Way has released a diverse slate of content, including the Emmy winning documentary THE PATH OF THE PANTHER Alejandro Iñárritu's three-time Academy Award® and Golden Globe winner THE REVENANT, and Martin Scorsese's Academy Award®- and Golden Globe- nominated KILLERS OF THE FLOWER MOON, THE WOLF OF WALL STREET, and THE AVIATOR. The company has also put forth strong efforts to gain headway in the historical and documentary world, especially as it pertains to shedding light on progressive environmental change and historical narratives producing projects such as OZI: VOICE OF THE FOREST, WE ARE GUARDIANS, VIRUNGA, THE VOLCANO: RESCUE FROM WHAKAARI, FIN, THE LONELIEST WHALE: THE SEARCH FOR 52, THE RIGHT STUFF, GRANT, ICE ON FIRE, and AND WE GO GREEN. Founded by Leonardo DiCaprio in 2001, Appian Way has been co-run by president, Jennifer Davisson, since 2007.

#### ABOUT OSMOSIS GLOBAL

Osmosis Global was co-founded by CEO Chris Grant and business partner Marc Pierce, with Eli Shibley serving as President. The company launched in 2023 as an international distribution partner and strategic revenue driver for best-in-class production companies, brands, and IP holders from around the world. Understanding the nuances of clients' businesses, the Osmosis team works to maximize revenue while supporting their core strategic business priorities. Osmosis has deep expertise in finished tape sales, pre-sales, co-productions, and Format adaptation.

Osmosis Global's recent titles include feature documentary WE WILL DANCE AGAIN (BBC Storyville/Sipur Studios), YELLOWSTONE ONE-FIFTY WITH KEVIN COSTNER (Warm Springs Productions), RISE: THE SIYA KOLISI STORY (Roc Nation), MY SON JEFFREY: THE DAHMER FAMILY TAPES (Renowned Films), SCARE TACTICS (WMTI Productions), and MAESTRA (Worldwide Pants/Netflix).

#### ABOUT ABRAMORAMA

Abramorama is a leading innovator in worldwide event cinema, theatrical distribution, marketing, and rights management for nonfiction, narrative and music centric films. For more than 25 years Abramorama has provided best-in-class strategic services to Intellectual Property stakeholders including acclaimed filmmakers, major networks, premier record labels, digital platforms and high-profile artists including AARP, Amazon, Laurie Anderson, Apple, Atlantic Records, The Beatles, Concord Music Group, Green Day, Steven Gyllenhaal, HBO, Hulu, Melanie Martinez, MSNBC, National Geographic, Netflix, PBS, Pearl Jam, Dawn Porter, Showtime, SONY, Oliver Stone, Universal Music Group, Warner Bros. Discovery, Warner Music, and many more. Through a powerful global network of cinema exhibition partners, digital media channels, cross platform facilitators, and affinity marketing partners, Abramorama strategically implements a unified distribution and audience activation plan for each title.

Abramorama has successfully distributed and marketed hundreds of films, including Cathy Garcia-Sampana's record breaking *Hello, Love, Again*; Sam Green's *32 Sounds*, Vanessa & Ted Hope's *Invisible Nation*; Ron Howard's Grammy Award®-winning *The Beatles: Eight Days A Week – The Touring Years*; Stanley Nelson's *Miles Davis: Birth of The Cool*; Roberta Grossman and Nancy Spielberg's *Who Will Write Our History*; John McDermott's *Jimi Hendrix: Electric Church*; Amir Bar-Lev's *Long Strange Trip – The Untold Story of the Grateful Dead*; Danny Clinch and Pearl Jam's *Let's Play Two*; Corbett Redford and Green Day's *Turn It Around: The Story of East Bay Punk*; John Scheinfeld's *Chasing Trane – The John Coltrane Documentary*; Brett Bern's *BANG! The Bert Berns Story*; Brett Morgen and National

Geographic's seminal *Jane*; Asif Kapadia's *Senna*; Neil Young's vast catalog of Bernard Shakey Productions; Cameron Crowe's *Pearl Jam Twenty*; Sacha Gervasi's Spirit Award-winning *Anvil! The Story of Anvil*; Banksy's Academy Award® nominated & Spirit Award-winning *Exit Through the Gift Shop*; Showtime's National Board of Review Winner *Listen to Me Marlon*; IDA Best Documentary Winner *The Look of Silence*; and the episodic multi-platform series *Deconstructing The Beatles*. For more information, please visit [www.abramorama.com](http://www.abramorama.com).