



THE FIRST ZEN INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

113 East 30<sup>th</sup> Street New York, NY 10016 212-686-2520 www.firstzen.org

會協禪一第國美

Film Series

# They Call It Myanmar

## Lifting The Curtain

Directed by Robert Lieberman © 2012 Docurama

Friday, April 11, 2014 7:30 – 9:00 PM

113 East 30<sup>th</sup> Street New York, NY 10016

*They Call It Myanmar* is a documentary about modern-day Myanmar, a.k.a. Burma. It picks up in documentary format where *The Lady* (the film screened last month at the First Zen Institute) leaves off. *They Call It Myanmar* culls the most striking images from over 120 hours of footage. It features interviews and interactions with more than 100 people throughout Burma, and these ordinary citizens are the stars of the show. The film showcases real humor, hope and warmth coming from people who have lived for decades under a repressive military dictatorship. There are numerous shots of temples, monks and ordinary laborers. The film provides real insight into a beautiful and troubled country. The director was finishing off his production in 2010 when he learned of Aung San Suu Kyi's release from house arrest, and arranged an interview with her. The film is not about Aung San Suu Kyi, but her interview is weaved into an overall tapestry about Burma, and she shares some candid insights and wisdom. The film was shot at a turning point in Burma's history, as the nation has opened up considerably since 2010. Aung San Suu Kyi was elected to Burma's parliament in 2012 and plans to run for the presidency in 2015. The footage shown here was – at the time – shot clandestinely, before Burma had deposed its military dictators and opened up to the outside world. 83 Minutes

Admission is free.

