

Chicago Filmmakers Presents

Sunday, February 15 -- 7:00pm

Al-Jazeera Exclusive

Co-Presented by Chicago Media Action



Al-Jazeera Exclusive (2003, 60 mins., video, UK) by Ben Anthony. This compelling and informative documentary, made for the BBC series *Correspondent*, takes a behind-the-scenes look at the controversial Qatar-based satellite television station Al-Jazeera in the days leading up to and during the Iraq War. The BBC "sent producer Ben Anthony to the station to record the processes that brought al-Jazeera's coverage of the conflict to the screen. His film offers a unique and extremely valuable insight into the Arabic view of the Coalition's invasion of Iraq. Anthony's camera records a number of key moments: the day when Saddam's ministers tried to ban al-Jazeera, the al-Jazeera decision to screen images of American and British corpses, the 'accidental' bombing of the hotel in Baghdad where al-Jazeera's reporters were based and the reaction of al-Jazeera's staff to the death of its reporter in that blast. We see a professional (but underfunded) newsroom in operation and we witness them catching other broadcasters pirating their material. In short, Anthony's *Al-Jazeera Exclusive* does what all the best documentaries do: it shows you things that no one else is showing you." (Tony Rayns, Vancouver International Film Festival)

Screening at Chicago Filmmakers, 5243 N. Clark St.

www.chicagofilmmakers.org

Admission: \$7 general; \$3 Chicago Filmmakers members

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