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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Embargoed until 9pm (EDT) Thursday, November 30th 2023**

**RECORD-BREAKING JESUS FILM PROJECT UNVEILS NEW INNOVATIVE ANIMATED FILM, *JESUS* (2025), IN WASHINGTON D.C.**

On 30 November in Washington D.C., Jesus Film Project, a leading initiative dedicated to engaging the watching world with Jesus, announced the launch of their latest cinematic undertaking, *JESUS* (2025).This ground-breaking film, set to hit theatres worldwide in December 2025, brings the story of Jesus to life as depicted in the Christian Gospels, introducing His story to a new generation through cutting-edge film technology.

*JESUS* (2025) serves as a spectacular remake of the iconic 1979 JESUS film, which holds a Guinness World Record as the most translated film of all time. Fusing unparalleled visual effects and computer graphics, the film benefits from the expertise and talent of a stellar technical and production team, whose credits include Pixar, Disney, and Star Wars.

Dominic Carola, the director of *JESUS* (2025) has worked on notable animated films such as *Mulan*, *The Lion King* and *Lilo & Stitch*. Carola said, "I feel honored to serve with this truly dream team of feature animation veterans and impressive studio industry artisans. We are working towards presenting the true story of Jesus beautifully animated and making His story more accessible to the world. Leaning into a classic artistic approach, we’re combining that with ground-breaking digital innovations to deliver a visually stunning and emotionally resonant portrayal of Jesus’ life like never before. The team is thoroughly excited that subsequent aspects of the animated film will be used across various platforms, including virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), and the emerging Metaverse.”

Back in 1956, a young American Christian missionary, Jim Elliot, was martyred by the Waorani tribe’s warriors along with four missionary partners and friends, for sharing the Gospel in Ecuador. Today, the Jesus Film Project Initiative - The Animated Story of Jesus - coincides with the ground-breaking development of the 2,100th translation of the original live action - *JESUS* film - released in 1979, into the Waorani tribe’s language from Ecuador.

Josh Newell, Executive Director of Jesus Film Project, said, “Following a request for the film in the language, it will be delivered by a partnership comprised of the Jesus Film Project, indigenous Waorani translators, and voice actors from communities across the Waorani people. Just like the original, we hope this animated experiential film will ultimately touch lives in over 2,000 languages, spreading the hope of Jesus to people around the globe.

"It’s amazing to be a part of the continued dispersal of the story of Jesus. Even today in 2023, we’re sharing the gospel in new languages and new ways. The telling of the story of Jesus has evolved throughout history, from the Roman Road to the Gutenberg Press, and right up to the present day through the medium of animated film.“

Jen Huff,the daughter of Paul Eshelman the director of the original JESUS Film said, “Through the 1979 JESUS film, tens of millions of people came to know Jesus. It’s a blessing to see the continuation of that legacy *JESUS* (2025) and to know that tens of millions more people will get to know the hope of the gospel. This film will authentically portray the greatest story of all time to the world, in people’s heart languages and across traditional and digital mediums – it’s so exciting."

*Get connected by visiting <jesus.film>or by downloading our free Insider App to receive regular updates, behind-the-scenes images and ways to pray with us, as the global momentum grows.*

**Ends**

**Notes to Editors**

Dominic Carola and Josh Newell are available for interviews.

1. **Contact:**

For photos, behind-the-scenes footage, first looks at the new film, interviews (additional spokespeople are available on request,) and further information please contact:

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1. **About *JESUS* (2025)**

*JESUS* (2025) is a new, animated family film about the life of Jesus designed to reach families, new generations, and people of all ages with the story of Jesus. Anchored in the Christian Gospels, the film re-imagines the JESUS film, using much of its dialogue in a refreshed script. The film is slated to release Christmas 2025 and will eventually be in 2,000+ heart languages!

*JESUS* (2025) builds on the global impact of JESUS and more than 40 years of Bible translation work, language production, and strong relationships with ministry partners – helping to reach everyone, everywhere.

1. **About Jesus Film Project**

Jesus Film Project is passionate about sharing Jesus with the world because they believe everyone, everywhere should have access to His life-changing love and forgiveness. That’s why, by God’s grace and through the help of their partners, their [Christian films are available in over 2,000 different languages](https://www.jesusfilm.org/watch). They are designed to break language and literacy barriers so anyone can watch—no matter where they are in the world.

They have placed their sights on reaching everyone, everywhere, with a special focus on the areas of the world that have the [least access to the gospel](https://www.jesusfilm.org/partners/mission-865/). And as the world changes, they innovate, adapt, and [use new technologies to reach it with the story of Jesus](https://www.jesusfilm.org/tools/).