## Praise for **BEYOND HATRED** {Teddy Award for Best Documentary, 2006 Berlin Film Festival}

"Movingly accompanies the family of Francois Chenu, a gay man murdered by three skinheads in 2002, down the road to forgiveness. Charged drama!"—*Variety* 

"A film whose style doesn't merely suit its story but amplifies its meanings." -New York Times

\*\*\*\*\* (highest rating) "Doc bombshell chronicling the aftermath of a young gay man's hate killing in Reims...Director Olivier Meyrou takes a potently oblique vérité approach, and his remarkable level of access reveals the limitations and equivocal mercies of human understanding with uncommon grace." *—Time Out New York* 

**\*\*\*\*** (*highest rating*) "Beyond Hatred is a fine kind of documentary that doesn't feel for a second like it has to follow the rules and is all the stronger for it." –*Filmcritic.com* 

"Powerful, emotionally intense... simply but boldly constructed...loaded with tension." -BBC

"A riveting, insightful film about understanding and even forgiveness in the face of the most heinous of crimes...profoundly moving ...The Chenu family stands as a shining beacon of hope for a better way of healing." –*NY Blade* 

★★★★ "Saints walk among us, we learn, via this Olivier Meyrou film…it is a film that breathes…The effect is like a sigh, an exhalation of breath with which Meyrou tries to cleanse his tale of ugliness. It almost happens." –*NY Newsday* 

Radical, Poetic, Stunning...Beyond Hatred arrives at essential truths about suffering and loss...Meyrou's novel approach never grows thin...a testament to the power of forgiveness." –*Slant Magazine* 

"Disconcerting naturalism lends the film its staying power...shot without sentimentality...an attempt at understanding the horrors of this world we live in, by both subjects and filmmaker." *-Indiewire* 

"Both emotionally raw and restrained...brings home with sombre force the dignified restraint with which Chenu's family handle their anger and loss." *–London Times* 

"Powerful and deeply moving." -Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

**\*\*\*** 

"Even though it's profoundly low-key, the film is riveting...astonishingly compassionate and moving." – *Shadows on the Wall (UK)* 

"Vital... the kind of depth that you don't ever see in a news report or interviews with victims of families, and never even to this extent in any other documentary...an uncommonly brilliant documentary... the highest recommendation and rating." –DVD Times (UK)

"In classic vérité style, director Olivier Meyrou allows this immensely cathartic story to unfold at its own pace without unnecessary exposition or narration." –*Palm Springs Film Festival* 

"Deeply moving ... the subject has such powerful emotional force as to require no further dramatisation or sensationalizing." –*London Film Festival* 

"A calm and moving cinema-verite documentary about moving past anger and revenge...flawlessly directed, the film is powerful without being preachy." –*SF Indiefest* 

"One of the most imaginative documentaries screened at this year's festival." -Sydney Film Festival