



FIRST RUN FEATURES PRESENTS



"INFECTIOUS OUTPOURINGS OF HARMONY IN THIS BEAUTIFULLY SYNCHED WEDDING OF MUSIC AND HISTORY."

-RONNIE SCHEIB, VARIETY

"A RHYTHMIC MEETING OF MUSIC AND HISTORY, 'WHEN THE DRUM IS BEATING' BRILLIANTLY INTERWEAVES THE STORIES OF HAITI AND ITS MOST CELEBRATED BAND, SEPTENTRIONAL."

-EMILY ACKERMAN, TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL

"GRACEFULLY COMPOSED, WITH BREATHTAKING PERFORMANCE FOOTAGE. REVEALS A CITIZENRY WITH A ROBUST AND UNDYING LOVE OF LIFE FAR STRONGER THAN ANY OF THE HORRORS THAT THE COUNTRY HAS ENDURED."

-VALERIE GLADSTONE, THE ROOT

In Haiti, there is one band that has seen it all: Septentrional. For six decades this 20 piece band has been making passionate, beautiful music – a fusion of Cuban big band and Haitian voodoo beats – through dictatorships, natural disasters, coup d'états, and chaos.

When the Drum is Beating interweaves the extraordinary story of Septentrional with that of Haiti: from the brutality of French colonialism and the bloody revolution that brought Haitians their freedom, to the crushing foreign debt and the 15 year American occupation that ushered in the brutal dictatorship of François "Papa Doc" Duvalier. We see the hope that was created by Jean Bertrand Aristide. And we are there as Haiti endures an earthquake that kills almost 300,000 people and tears apart the social fabric of the country.

Through its sweeping narrative, infectious music and tension-filled encounters, the film allows the viewer to see, feel and hear the passion, commitment and joy of Septentrional's musicians, and through them, the unique Haitian spirit.

Bonus materials include

- Interview with Director Whitney Dow
- Creole Language Option • 5.1 Audio Option

SRP: \$27.95 Canada: \$29.95

Catalog #: FRF 915106D

84 minutes, color, 2011

In English & Creole w/English subtitles



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- FROM THE DIRECTOR OF *THE TWO TOWNS OF JASPER* •



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