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2-24-2012

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University Relations, "Culture and landscape connect in Woven from the Land" (2012). *Campus News Archive*. 511.

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Culture and landscape connect in Woven from the Land

Summary: Connecting landscape and culture, the film Woven from the Land by Teresa Konechne, will be screened on Tuesday, March 6, 2012 at 7 p.m. in Imholte Hall 109.

(February 24, 2012)-Connecting landscape and culture, the film Woven from the Land by Teresa Konechne, will be screened on Tuesday, March 6, 2012 at 7 p.m. in Imholte Hall 109.

Teresa Konechne is a filmmaker, artist and activist living in St. Paul, Minnesota. Her award-winning films screened in festivals in 10 countries and have been distributed nationally. Much of her work focuses on something she holds dear: land and home. She grew up on a South Dakota farm and then went on to receive her MFA from the University of Iowa. She is a Bush Artist Fellow and Jerome Foundation grant recipient.

As a former faculty member at Virginia Commonwealth University, she worked with her students on her first documentary film, this black soil. This black soil screened nationally, internationally, and was broadcast on the Documentary Channel. It was one of 12 films placed on the American Library Association's 2006 List of Notable Videos for Adults and is distributed nationally by Bullfrog Films.

She also produced works for the Archibald Bush Foundation, local artists, and a film about the 1995 Chicano student-led hunger strike at St. Cloud State University.

In Woven from the Land the voices of 18 Midwest Native and non-Native American rural women weave together in this personal narrative film to explore our relationship to land, land loss, loss of rural culture, how landscape shapes who we are, and possible connections between the history of land and racial strife. 17 years in the making, Woven from the Land is both personal and universal. It illustrates the filmmaker's journey home to explore her own connection to place while asking if changing our relationship to land is key to both our survival and peace between peoples.

A roundtable discussion featuring area women farmers Mary Jo Forbord, coordinator of the Morris Healthy Eating Project Terry VanderPol, director of the Land Stewardship Project and farmers Rebecca Terk and Johanna Rupprecht will follow the film. There will also be a question and answer period with the filmmaker and a reception.

This event is sponsored by the Commission on Women, the Division of the Humanities, the English discipline, the Communication, Media, and Rhetoric discipline, and the Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies discipline.

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