French philosopher Voltaire once cautioned, “It is dangerous to be right when the government is wrong.” As the powerful new documentary A WHISPER TO A ROAR demonstrates, Voltaire’s warning has never been truer than it is today. This film explores the heroic efforts of courageous democracy activists in five countries – Egypt, Malaysia, Ukraine, Venezuela and Zimbabwe - and the challenges posed by the dictators they oppose(d). The film’s subjects span the full spectrum of democratic activists: student leaders (Venezuela); young professionals (Egypt); currently active opposition politicians (Malaysia and Zimbabwe) and a former president (Ukraine). They come from a variety of cultures and live on different continents, yet they all aspire for justice and accountability from their governments and take enormous risks to pursue political freedom for themselves and their fellow citizens.

Shot over three years and finalized in July 2012 by award-winning filmmaker, Ben Moses, the film was inspired by the work of Stanford University’s Larry Diamond, author of “The Spirit of Democracy” and Director of Stanford University’s Center for Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law. It was funded by The Moulay Hicham Foundation, whose benefactor, Prince Moulay Hicham of Morocco, is a renowned public intellectual and democracy advocate, particularly in regards to the Middle East.

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