



# EBOLA WAR

## The Nurses of Gulu

a one-hour television documentary  
about courage and compassion

Presented by Alethia Productions Inc.  
Directed and produced by David Belluz    Produced by Lori Kuffner    Written by David Belluz and Daryl K. Davis  
Edited by Daryl K. Davis    Original music by J. Douglas Dodd    Narrated by Marina Orsini

Funding provided by W Network, Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), CTF, SCN, The Documentary Channel, the Saskatchewan Film Employment Tax Credit, the Canadian Film or Video Production Tax Credit and developed with the participation of SaskFilm

Distributed by Alethia Productions Inc.

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 **ALETHIA**  
PRODUCTIONS INC.

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## The Nurses of Gulu



Uganda, East Africa. A battle against a modern day plague.

“Ebola War: The Nurses of Gulu” tells of a heroic five month struggle against an invisible killer. By the time the disease was spent, 163 people were dead including twelve nurses and Dr. Matthew Lukwiya.

This powerful one-hour documentary takes viewers into the eye of a virulent epidemic. Shot on location in the hospitals' isolation wards, the nurses confront a deadly disease. Without adequate protective gear and training, the nurses are vulnerable. Four die in the first week. Frontline workers face crisis and fear.

“Ebola War: Nurses of Gulu” was filmed, written and directed by David Belluz. “I was in awe of those sacrificing their lives for no monetary gain. For one month, the isolation ward was madness. What these nurses did in this place of evil, was extraordinary.”

Life is hard in Gulu. For 16 years, civil conflict has ravaged the people. Then, in the fall of 2000, the viral hemorrhagic fever Ebola attacked and destroyed - melting internal organs, causing bodily fluids to pour from every opening. Blood was a bomb that continued into the grave.

The World Health Organization (WHO) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) moved in - and still nurses died.

“We were all wearing the same protective gear. That is the scary part” - Nurse Paska Obwona.

Suspected by villagers of spreading the disease, nurses were banned from buying food in the market. Friends turned their backs. Family members begged them to quit work. They refused.

For the first time, Canada was asked by WHO to join the Global Response Network Team. Health Canada sent in three field epidemiologists, including Dr. Bonnie Henry. “The biggest obstacles were fear. Ebola is an enigma that has the potential to cause enormous damage.”

As the disease spreads, surveillance teams search the countryside for victims. The stunning beauty of Africa collides with terror. Viewers see painful reminders of suffering, of exhausted hospital workers and finally, of joyous, unimaginable exuberance. Trauma and triumph are explored through gripping eyewitness accounts.

With unforgettable images, haunting music and narration by acclaimed actor, Marina Orsini, this intimate program will strike a chord with audiences. It is a timely tale in an age of new heroes, new dangers.

“Ebola War: The Nurses of Gulu” is a deeply moving story about courage and compassion.

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Canadian Television Fund  
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