

# **Touchstone: Dancing With Angels**

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world." - Mahatma Gandhi

"Thank you for sending us the dvd of **Touchstone**. We REALLY enjoyed it! What a beautiful.. and wonderful group of people you are blessed to be involved with. It was truly touching for us to see such compassion & magic alive in the world.. the story was very well told.. with an amazing soundtrack. We were so moved after watching the film.. our congratulations on a job well done and a life well lived."

- **Ward M. Powers**, Creator & Director, "**ONE, The Movie**"

"This is a wonderful opportunity to open your mind and heart.. Throughout this experience they come to meet themselves, share their joys, surrender to their fears.. They are often referred to as "a community of hermits who happen to like people." This film is filled with local music and beautiful scenery and imagery. **Touchstone: Dancing With Angels** is a chance to see life as most are hesitant to live."

- **Ron Damico**, Publisher, **Inner Tapestry Holistic Journal**

"A remarkable film about a spiritual Dance / Farm / Yoga / Healing "Community" / CENTER in Western Massachusetts... its stories of origin, challenge.. and, like the proverbial "Phoenix from the ashes," this film reveals a **Touchstone** that has weathered the "storms" of municipal regulations and rapacious land developers/building inspectors. And survives.. with a vision for the Future."

- **Chuck Cole**, Director, **Wellfleet Peace Drum Film Circle**

**Touchstone: Dancing With Angels** is a widescreen documentary focusing on the people, history, and current plight of **Touchstone Farm**. This growing community of eclectic and creative individuals continues to touch the hearts of many people throughout the region and the world. Located in the thriving environs of Easthampton, MA, this group of artists are known for their uplifting music, Sacred Circle Dances, yoga classes, massage & acupuncture center, as well as their lush herb, flower & meditation gardens and non-denominational celebrations.

**Touchstone Farm** and its founders are now engaged in a struggle to keep their dream alive. Since building inspections closed down the operations at the Center in the Spring of 2006, the founders have risen from adversity, -- by raising funds and garnering international support in their Herculean efforts to acquire nearby land to create an eco-village of more than 10 acres.

Throughout all of these struggles and victories, director and cinematographer **D.S. Fine** captured many exhilarating moments with the community, documenting the inspiring story of the founders' rise from adversity to advantage. And editor **Rebecca Rideout** has assembled a dynamic & captivating, "straight-from-the-heart" film, -- combing through over 180 hours of footage.

The resilient group of energetic, enigmatic & endearing dreamers, activists, musicians & thinkers is, in effect, undergoing a spiritual death and rebirth. Concurrent with the center's transformation has been the *extraordinary* transgender journey of one of its co-directors, **Deborah Hall-McNeil**, who, -- after many months of inner reflection, -- has been remarkably candid with the filmmakers.

As assistant editor at **Florentine Films / Hott Productions** in Haydenville, MA (recent PBS projects include *Niagara Falls*; *Through Deaf Eyes*; and *American Masters* series: *John James Audubon: Drawn From Nature*), **Rebecca Rideout** has extensive experience in the documentary editing style.

Independent producer / director **D.S. Fine**, whose previous cinematic efforts include *Artistree*; *The Occupant*; and *The Extraterrestrial Hypothesis*, offers more than thirty years of film and video experience, along with an incredible eye and creative flair with the camera.

This film was made possible, in part, by the **Easthampton Cultural Council** and the **Northampton Arts Council**.

IMMEDIATE IMPRESSIONS PRESENTS A FILM BY D.S. FINE  
"TOUCHSTONE: DANCING WITH ANGELS" MUSIC BY PETER SKY  
FILM EDITOR REBECCA RIDEOUT ASSOCIATE PRODUCER HOLLY LYNN DANYLIW  
PRODUCED BY D.S. FINE AND REBECCA RIDEOUT DIRECTED BY D.S. FINE  
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Language: English | Format: Widescreen 16:9 | Color | Stereo | Running Time: 1 hr. 2 mins.

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