



Community Services  
City of Beverly Hills  
455 N. Rexford Dr.  
Beverly Hills, CA 90210-4817  
310.285.2530  
[www.beverlyhills.org](http://www.beverlyhills.org)

For Immediate Release  
November 22, 2016  
Contact: Dana Beesen  
310.285.2530  
[dbeesen@beverlyhills.org](mailto:dbeesen@beverlyhills.org)

**Film Screening of Award-Winning Documentary**  
***“The Desert of The Forbidden Art”***  
*Filmmaker Amanda Pope to take Questions from Audience*

*Beverly Hills, Calif.* - The Beverly Hills Public Library will hold a free screening of the award-winning documentary, *“The Desert of the Forbidden Art”*, on Sunday, December 4 at 3 p.m. Filmmaker Amanda Pope will take questions from the audience following the screening. The film’s run time is 1 hour and 20 minutes. Free parking is available in the lot adjacent to the library located at 444 North Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills.

The *“Desert of the Forbidden Art”* is about a penniless artist named Igor Savitsky who rescues 40,000 pieces of art during the Soviet rule and creates a museum in the desert of Uzbekistan. After the Soviet Revolution in 1917, Savitsky uncovers a group of artists in Uzbekistan who create original works of art fusing European modernism with centuries-old Eastern traditions.

During her 20-year career, Emmy-winning director Amanda Pope’s directing, producing, writing and editing credits include award-winning documentary, dramatic, and social advocacy programs. Her work has focused on the dynamics of creativity in fine art, public art happenings, urban design, theatre and dance. *“The Desert of Forbidden Art”* is Pope’s most recent work. Amanda Pope is also a Professor in production of Southern California’s School of Cinematic Arts.

*“The Desert of Forbidden Art”* won the prestigious CINE Golden Eagle Award, which has been widely recognized as a symbol of excellence in professional, independent and student filmmaking for over 50 years.

For more information, call the library at 310. 310.288.2200 or go online to [www.bhpl.org](http://www.bhpl.org).

###