

BLACK GOLD

**Friday 11th April - 8.30pm
MacNamara's Bar, Scarriff**

**Directed by: Marc Francis & Nick Francis
UK/USA 2006, 78mins, Cert: Club**

Multinational coffee companies rule an industry worth over \$80 billion. But while we continue to pay for our lattes and cappuccinos, the price paid to coffee farmers remains so low that many have been forced to abandon their coffee fields. Nowhere is this paradox more evident than in Ethiopia, the birthplace of coffee. Tadesse Meskela is one man on a mission to save his 74,000 struggling coffee farmers from bankruptcy.

Against the backdrop of Tadesse's journey to London and Seattle, the enormous power of the multinationals becomes apparent. New York commodity traders, the international coffee exchanges, and the double dealings of trade ministers at the World Trade Organisation reveal the many challenges Tadesse faces in his quest for a long term solution for his farmers.

www.blackgoldmovie.com

Marc Francis & Nick Francis: Co-directors and Co-producers

After making a series of short documentaries dealing with contemporary social issues, Marc and Nick Francis co-directed and produced their debut feature-documentary *Black Gold* which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and received critical-acclaim during its' international theatrical, DVD and broadcast release.

Through their production company *Speak-it Films*, they have been supported by the Sundance Institute, the Channel 4 British Documentary Film Foundation and the UK Film Council. They are now in development on their next feature documentary about the Chinese in Africa. Backed by Arte, it is expected for release in 2009.

For more information please visit : www.speak-it.org

PLUS: Short Film

Admision: E7

Midnight Court Film Society

midnightcourt@greenguide.ie

065 6831930

086 1225569
