



Critical Acclaim for P.O.V.'s "INHERITANCE"

By James Moll

"Powerful. . . . Throughout, Mr. Moll illustrates the narrative with a remarkable collection of archival materials. . . . Then, just when you think he has wrung all the emotions out . . . the women jolt you again, describing how the wartime experiences affected their loved ones for decades after."

— **Neil Genzlinger, *The New York Times***

"A remarkable story of truth and reconciliation featuring two equally courageous women. One is Monika Hertwig, daughter of a notorious Nazi commandant; the other is Helen Jonas, a Holocaust survivor. . . . A beautifully filmed documentary that is alternately shocking and poignant."

— **Kate Taylor, *The Globe and Mail, Toronto***

"The difference in *Inheritance* . . . is the formidable Monika, the only child of . . . Amon Goeth, portrayed in *Schindler's List* by Ralph Fiennes. . . . Tall, raw-boned, with grim eyes and a steady gaze, this figure runs away with the film the moment she appears on screen. . . . The film . . . makes splendid use of stills and footage of Goeth, both in his glory . . . and at his end."

— **Dorothy Rabinowitz, *The Wall Street Journal***

"Fascinating."

— **Robert Bianco, *USA Today***

"A deeply moving film. So vivid is this film's depiction of a dark past that you almost expect Goeth's malignant ghost to jump out from behind a wall during a wrenching tour of his villa. But *Inheritance* is about other ghosts — living ones that can't be exorcised. Grade: A."

— **Verne Gay, *Newsday***

"In a documentary world awash in Ken Burns knockoffs . . . it is good to be reminded of what the camera can capture that no amount of narrative or analysis could ever hope to."

— **Mary McNamara, *Los Angeles Times***

"You marvel at the moral courage of [Monika] Hertwig in trying to learn. And of [Helen] Jonas in helping her. . . . they are linked by an awful past and a determination to bear witness. . . . It is not just an act of courage. It is also an act of redemption. And of faith."

— **Leonard Pitts Jr., *The Miami Herald / McClatchy Newspapers***

"Fear and trepidation were Helen Jonas's everyday companions while she served as a housemaid in the villa of Amon Goeth, the notorious Nazi commander. . . . Six decades after those horrid years, Jonas received a letter from Monika Hertwig, Goeth's daughter. She wanted to meet her. . . .

This emotional meeting is the story of *Inheritance*."

— **Elliot Resnick, *The Jewish Press***

"A powerful story about the intersection of history, family, tragedy and even Hollywood, the P.O.V. documentary *Inheritance* features a character beyond the imagination of any screenwriter."

— **Kevin McDonough, *United Feature Syndicate***

— more —

“A powerful new documentary.”
— **NPR “On Point” with Tom Ashbrook**

“An extraordinary meeting where forgiveness and healing emerges among the anger and sorrow.”
— **Roger Catlin, *Hartford Courant***

“Powerful. . . . This was a story that had never been told.”
— **Curt Schleier, *Emmy Magazine***

“Each [woman] . . . brings strength, suffering, rage and finally a kind of damaged dignity
to the encounter.”
— **Ella Taylor, *L.A. Weekly***

“A current trend in Holocaust films is to document the impact of the event on memory; the PBS
documentary *Inheritance* does it, and does it well. . . . Moll’s film deftly recreates the destruction,
and rehabilitation, of Hertwig’s Holocaust memory.”
— **George Robinson, *The Jewish Week, New York***

“Thank G-d evil is not hereditary, even evil perpetrated by those who commanded the Third
Reich’s death camps. *Inheritance* . . . proves this point with its intimate documentation of a meeting
between Monika Hertwig, daughter of Amon Leopold Goeth, SS commandant of the Nazi
concentration camp at Plaszów, Poland, and Helen Jonas, a Jewish woman. . . .”
— **Karin Tanabe, *Moment Magazine***

“The documentary is deeply affecting in its portrayal of the emotional damage evil acts can do,
even many decades after they are committed.”
— **Mike Potemra, *The National Review Online***

“P.O.V.’s *Inheritance* provides an unvarnished look at how one man’s actions over 60 years ago
continue to cripple those he left behind. These women’s attempts to find peace in reaching out
to each other forms a memorable . . . chronicle of the immense difficulty of coming to grips
with a horrifying past.”
— **Heather Havrilesky, *Salon.com***

“*Inheritance* never pretends to expose a single ‘truth,’ but instead shows in a series of scenes . . .
Hertwig and Jonas’s repeated efforts to grasp various truths, their simultaneous abilities and
inabilities to comprehend each other’s perspectives and their discrete, irreconcilable traumas.”
— **Cynthia Fuchs, *PopMatters.com***