

# FILM NIGHT

Friday, November 4 • 7:00 p.m.  
at the Coop

## Battle for Brooklyn



PHOTO: MICHAEL GALINSKY

*Battle for Brooklyn* is an intimate look at the very public and passionate fight waged by residents and business owners of Brooklyn's historic Prospect Heights neighborhood facing condemnation of their property to make way for the polarizing Atlantic Yards project, a massive plan to build 16 skyscrapers and a basketball arena for the New Jersey Nets. The film focuses on graphic designer **Daniel Goldstein** whose apartment sits at what would be center court of the new arena. A reluctant activist,

*continued on back*

**FREE**  
**Non-members**  
**welcome**

Views expressed by the presenter do not necessarily represent the PSFCoop

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Daniel is dragged into the fight because he can't accept that the government should use the power of Eminent Domain to take his new apart-



PHOTO: MICHAEL GALINSKY

ment and hand it off to a private developer, Forest City Ratner. The effort to stop the project pits him and his neighbors against Ratner and an entourage of lawyers and public relations emissaries, the government and other residents who want the construction jobs, the basketball team and the additional housing that the project might produce. Daniel and a host of Brooklynites form the group "Develop Don't Destroy Brooklyn" to pursue alternate plans to Ratner's proposal and to expose misconceptions about the project. One by one, residents living in the footprint begin to sell their homes to the developer or move away, leaving Daniel as the last man standing in the footprint of the proposed sports arena. Along the way, he loses a fiancé, falls in love again, gets married and starts a family. *Battle for Brooklyn* is a thoroughly engaging look at the infuriating erosion of individual rights in the interest of corporate concerns and political maneuvering. Shot over the course of eight years and compiled from almost 500 hours of footage, *Battle for Brooklyn* is an epic and universal tale of one man under pressure, and how far he will go to fight for his home and what he believes in.

Daniel Goldstein will be in attendance after the screening, for a Q&A.

*Battle for Brooklyn* 2011, 93 min., U.S. Directed by Michael Galinsky and Suki Hawley.

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Co-curator **Gabriel Rhodes** is both an editor and a filmmaker. His work has premiered at Sundance and Cannes — among many other festivals — and has aired on Sundance Channel, A&E, CNN and PBS. His theatrical documentary credits include *Control Room*, *My Kid Could Paint That* and most recently, *The Tillman Story*. In 2011, two of his edited films (*The Tillman Story* and *Quest for Honor*) were shortlisted for the Academy Awards. His commercial clients include Conde Nast, The Guggenheim, Virgin America, YouTube, Harper Collins and Revlon. In 2004, he was awarded a fellowship from the New York State Council for the Arts. He received his Master's Degree in Documentary Film from Stanford University in 2000.