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PRESS RELEASE

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Lifetime Achievement award for Unsung Lithuanian Filmmaker and Holocaust Researcher

B'nai B'rith Australia New Zealand (ANZ) is honouring documentary filmmaker Mr. Saulius Beržinis with a *Lifetime Achievement Award* in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the body of research, study, and documentation of Lithuania's Jewish population during the Holocaust.

Mr. Beržinis' commitment to revealing and disseminating the truth about the atrocities visited upon Lithuania's Jewish communities in the days before Nazi occupation, as well as the identities of the local Lithuanian perpetrators, has been invaluable in preserving the integrity and accuracy of European history.

Mr. Beržinis has demonstrated resilience, rigor, and integrity in his pursuit of truth and accuracy over the past 30 years. His commitment and sacrifice have come at great personal cost.

'We are deeply honoured to recognise Mr. Beržinis for his extraordinary efforts in preserving the memory and legacy of Lithuanian Jewry and uncovering the whole truth about its annihilation,' said Dr. Benny Monheit, President of B'nai B'rith ANZ.

'His work stands as a testament to the resilience and strength of those who endured unimaginable suffering during the Holocaust,' added Dr. Monheit.

B'nai B'rith ANZ is deeply concerned to learn that Mr. Beržinis' latest work, "*Petrified Time*," on the atrocities committed in Sheduva, Lithuania, has been decommissioned and blocked from international release. The film contains crucial interviews with the last remaining Lithuanian eyewitnesses and plays a key role in preserving essential information and historical accuracy for the sake of future generations. B'nai B'rith ANZ calls for the unblocking of the film and urges Lithuanian authorities to facilitate its international dissemination in the name of historical truth.