

WAMM Monday Night at the Movies Presents 1971, the Film

October 12 at 7:00 p.m.

4200 Cedar Avenue South, Minneapolis (entrance on 42nd Avenue)



*Today's engaged citizens Meredith Aby-Keirstead, Anne Keirstead, Audrey.
Photo: Kim DeFranco*

Betty Medsger, author of the book *The Burglary: The Discovery of J. Edgar Hoover's Secret FBI*, on which the film is based, will participate via Skype in the discussion following the film. The film tells the true story about eight ordinary citizens who broke into an FBI office in the year 1971, took hundreds of secret files, and shared them with the public by sending them to the media. They revealed the FBI's vast and illegal regime of spying and intimidation of Americans, which included spying on antiwar activists and African-American students, as well as others who were exercising their First Amendment rights. Betty Medsger, a reporter at *The Washington Post* at the time, was the first in the media with the courage to expose what was in the files to the American public.

The film's director, Joanna Hamilton, expresses hope "that people today will be reminded of what it means to be an engaged citizen, and how vigilance is needed to sustain democracy."

For more about the book and the concerns it raises, see the article “Dissent, Activism, and Civil Liberties: An Exploration” by Sue Ann Martinson in this issue.