Press Release

Women Of The Lens Film Festival Returns Friday 22nd to Sunday 24th Nov 2024

13 Films; 4 Themes; 3 Days; 1 Festival

For Immediate Release

London 19th October 2024: An important addition to the film festival circuit sees the influential Women Of The Lens Film Festival return with live film screenings, industry-led panel discussion and professional networking at Rich Mix, 35-37 Bethnal Green Road, London E1 6LA on Friday 22nd to Sunday 24th November 2024.

Our 13 films are curated into four strands;

1 - Heritage, Healing Heroines: in this strand we witness how the past shapes the present and how loss can also inspire growth as individual courage becomes a cornerstone of progress.

> Films in this strand are Lost & Found directed by Erica Miller, Fifty-Four Days directed by Catherine White and Phoebe Torrance and Fearless directed by Noella Letitia Mingo.

2 - Visions Through Resilience and Revolution: each film in this strand reflects the power of leadership, resilience, and the transformative influence of women across diverse fields – from filmmaking, to space exploration, to technological innovation. Together, they highlight the strength and imagination of women who break boundaries, transcend adversity, and drive change in ways that impact generations.

> Films in this strand are Out Of The Box: The Screen Worlds of Judy Kibinge directed by Lindiwe Dovey, Mangata directed by Maja Costa and Ciberneticas directed by Graziela Mantoanelli.

3 - Creative Connections That Deliver Warm Bonds: here, films highlight the ways in which human bonds are formed, tested and redefined in everyday life. Together, they offer a heartwarming and playful look at how creativity – whether through food, work, or games – can be a conduit for connection, self-discovery, and new beginnings.

> Films here are Amina directed by Christie Fewry, The Lennox Report directed by Steve Bright and Vacant directed by Aggie Nyagari.

4 - Being On The Edge, Survival Spirit with Rebirth: this strand brings to light the struggles and triumphs of women who, whether through hardship, heritage, or myth are pushed to their limits and must carve out new paths for themselves.

> This final film strand contains Skettel directed by Moon Lee Ferguson, Vodou directed by Demi Anais, The Myth directed by Rebecca Stephens and The Pay Day directed by Sam Bradford.

The Festival has confirmed filmmakers in attendance from a selection of the films programmed. It will be a prime opportunity for making industry connections and to exchange knowledge that supports career growth.

About Women Of The Lens Film Festival
Women Of The Lens Film Festival is an in-person festival of film programming. Debuting in November 2017, it was created to celebrate and highlight the achievements of British black women in the UK film industries. Founded by Jenifer G. Robinson, Women Of The Lens Film Festival was created because the representation of black women in the UK film industries remained stubbornly low both in front of and behind the camera. Even though there were festivals that featured black women who were British, Jennifer believed that there was still not enough focus on black British women's development and achievements. Whilst the narratives that the Festival collates are by black women, the platform frequently programmes films from different nationalities and cultures from within and without the UK. These productions push the expectations of women's roles in front of and behind the camera. The platform sincerely welcomes all persons who will support the ethos and spirit of Women Of The Lens Film Festival.

Founder and Director Jennifer G. Robinson says:
"...I'm proud of the fact that we're able to deliver another festival, even in very uncertain times in the film industry. The economic and technological forces at play have added to a rate of developmental pace we've not seen before, that have made many of us concerned about our longevity. We've managed to grow further since the limiting factors of lockdown, yet whilst we are in difficult times, I'm optimistic about independent filmmaking's future, which Women Of The Lens whole-heartedly supports. Going forward the independent sector is going to be a pivotal force in reshaping the industry and we want to make our own contribution to what a new, vibrant landscape looks like. It's also great to be working with Rich Mix, London again. They've been very supportive of our growth and we look forward to working with them in the future..."

About Founder and Director Jennifer G. Robinson
The brainchild behind Women Of The Lens Film Festival is Jennifer G. Robinson. She has over 25 years of experience working in the creative industries. Jennifer worked with the late filmmaker Menelik Shabazz as Festival Coordinator to produce the 2015 edition of one of the longest running UK black film festivals – the Black Filmmaker International Film Festival and it was this experience that spurred her desire to create a specific platform for women. As well as film, Jennifer has an education and journalistic career. To say that Jennifer is passionate about the industry is clichéd, but it is the best word to use that describes her innate commitment and loyalty to create and

deliver a Festival of integrity that will grow and fulfill its ethos as described.

Full 2024 Programme: https://womenofthelens.com/2024-programme/

Venue: Rich Mix, 35-37 Bethnal Green Road, London E1 6LA

Women Of The Lens Film Festival/Rich Mix website link:https://richmix.org.uk/events/women-of-the-lens-2024/

Social Media Assets Access: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1YNUxQ-mlOPGY4n-3TpM4F5LggWlYFbuU?usp=drive_link

Social Media Handle: @WomenOfTheLens

All media accreditation and enquires to: info@womenofthelens.com

Ends.