



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 15, 2015

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18th Annual United Nations Association Film Festival (UNAFF) "Running out of Time" LOCAL FILMMAKERS

ALICE WALKER: BEAUTY IN TRUTH

Director **Pratibha Parmar**'s dedication in bringing complex subjects into mainstream media has helped change the contours of popular discourse on race, feminism, sexuality and creativity. Pratibha's credits include *A Place of Rage*, a documentary film on African-American women and the civil rights movement featuring Angela Davis and June Jordan. The film received international critical acclaim and was named Best Historical Documentary at the National Black Programming Consortium in the US. In 1993 Pratibha released her most challenging film *Warrior Marks*, which documented female genital mutilation at a time when the subject was taboo globally. This award-winning documentary was made in collaboration with the Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Alice Walker. Parmar and Walker collaborated on the book *Warrior Marks—Female Genital Mutilation* and the *Sexual Blinding of Women*, which documented the making of the film. Author and editor of several books, Pratibha was awarded the Visionary Award for her body of work from the One in Ten Film Festival in October 2007 and is a past winner of the Frameline Film Festival Lifetime Achievement Award.

CAPTURING GRACE

Director/Producer **Dave Iverson** has worked in public broadcasting for over thirty years. In addition to his work on KQED public radio's Forum program, Dave works as a television correspondent, producer and writer. He was the correspondent, writer and co-producer/director of the 2009 PBS Frontline documentary *My Father, My Brother and Me* which explored his family's battle with Parkinson's disease. He also serves as a special correspondent for the PBS NewsHour where he's reported on the aftermath of the Haiti earthquake and covered various health care stories. His other recent film credits include the 2012 film *The Memory Be Green* which documented the creation of a new play directed by Jonathan Moscone and inspired by the story of his father, the late San Francisco Mayor George Moscone. Iverson was also the writer, narrator and co-producer of the 1999 national Emmy Award-winning PBS documentary *The 30 Second Candidate*. As a producer/writer and executive producer, Iverson's awards include a national Emmy Award, the Alfred I. Dupont Columbia Award, the Gabriel Award, the New York Film Festival Gold and Silver Awards, the Chicago Film Festival Gold Hugo, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting Gold Award, and four Chicago Regional Emmy awards. Iverson is a graduate of Stanford University and received his MS in telecommunications from Indiana University.

FREE

Director/Producer **David Collier** is an award winning documentary filmmaker, and the principal and founder of Studio B Films. He received an Academy Award nomination in 1993 for his feature length documentary *For Better or for Worse*. Studio B Films is a video production company in Berkeley, specializing in commercial work and documentary-based storytelling.

Director/Producer **Suzanne LaFetra** is a freelance writer, journalist and filmmaker. She is the executive producer of the documentary, *She Wants to be a Matador*. She has long believed in the power of film as a medium for social change. Being the mom/stepmom to four adolescents has made her particularly keen on the youth development work portrayed in *F R E E*. This is her directorial debut.

HAVANA CURVEBALL

Director/Producer **Ken Schneider** is producer, editor, and sound recordist for PatchWorks Films. He co-edited the feature documentary *Regret To Inform*, winner of the Peabody Award, Indie Spirit Award and Sundance Film Festival Directing Award, as well as the IDA Award and was nominated for an Academy Award and a National Emmy. He co-produced and edited *Soft Vengeance*, which was featured at the Ford Foundation's celebration of South Africa's 20th anniversary of transitioning to democracy. Other editing credits include *Bolinao 52* about Vietnamese boat refugees; the PBS American Masters specials *Orozco: Man of Fire* and *Ralph Ellison: An American Journey*; POV special *Freedom Machines*, about the convergence of disability, technology and civil rights; PBS primetime special *The Good War* and *Those Who Refused to Fight It*, won awards from both the American Historical Association and Organization of American Historians; PBS special and Golden Gate award-winner *Store Wars: When Wal-Mart Comes to Town*.

Director/Producer **Marcia Jarmel** founded PatchWorks with Ken Schneider. Marcia's other films include *Collateral Damage*, a mother's lament about the human costs of war as part of *Underground Zero: Filmmakers Respond to 9/11*. *Return of Sarah's Daughters* examines the allure of Orthodox Judaism to secular young women. The hour-long documentary won a CINE Golden Eagle, National Educational Media Network Gold Apple, and 1st Place in the Jewish Video Competition. Her first film, *The F Word: A short video about Feminism* uses whimsical animation and interviews to foster discussion on this so-called contentious topic. Marcia's additional credits include producing and directing films for the San Francisco World Music Festival, co-editing the Academy-award nominee, *For Better or For Worse*, and assistant producing the Academy Award-nominees, *Berkeley in the Sixties* and *Freedom on My Mind*.

HOTEL 22

Director/Producer **Elizabeth Lo** is an award-winning nonfiction filmmaker who seeks to find new, aesthetic ways of exploring the boundaries between species, class, and states of personhood. Her short films have been showcased at festivals and venues across North America and Europe, including the *New York Times*, Sundance, True/False, SFIFF, Hot Docs, and DOK Leipzig. She has been nominated for an IDA Documentary Award, and is a recipient of the Telluride Student Symposium Fellowship, the UFVA Graduate Student Fellowship, the Carole Fielding Grant, and the Enersen Foundation Breitrose Award, and the Stanford University Spice! Award. She holds an MFA in documentary film from Stanford University and a BFA in film and literature from the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University.

INEQUALITY FOR ALL

Director **Jacob Kornbluth** is an award-winning writer and director of two feature films: *Haiku Tunnel* with Josh Kornbluth, and *The Best Thief in the World* with Mary-Louise Parker. Both films premiered in competition at the Sundance Film Festival. *Haiku Tunnel* was released by Sony Pictures' Classics in 2001—September 11, 2001 was its premiere, if you can believe that—and *The Best Thief* was made and released by Showtime Independent Films. He was a fellow at the Sundance Screenwriting Labs twice, and the Sundance Directing lab once. Jacob started his career as a writer and director in the theater. He collaborated on and directed three successful solo shows in San Francisco. *The Moisture Seekers*, *Pumping Copy* (both with Josh Kornbluth), and *The Face by the Door* (with Christina Robbins). All three were nominated for or won Best Of

The Bay awards and successfully toured the country, and a later version of *The Moisture Seekers* (called *Red Diaper Baby*) has been included in anthologies of the best one man shows of the 90's. Over fifteen years in the film business, Jacob has started and successfully funded two production companies and worked at virtually every job on a film set, from director to producer to AD to PA.

A KNOCK ON MY DOOR

Director **David Chai** is an independent animation director and an instructor of animation at San Jose State University. He has worked on a variety of projects ranging from educational software, animation for television and video, commercial advertising, to independent films. Commercials directed for Thunderbean Animation received the Gold Award for best animated television commercials at the Kalamazoo Animation Festival International. To date, his independent films have screened in over 220 film festivals internationally, including Sundance, Cinequest, Ann Arbor, and Annecy; been broadcast on Atom Films, MTV-2, G4TV, PBS, and ZeD in Canada; featured in Spike and Mike's Sick and Twisted Festival of Animation; and nominated twice for Best Short Subject at the Annie Awards. His filmography includes *25 Ways to Die*, *Flames of Passion*, *Neighborhood Roots*, *Stoopid Movie*, *Fumi and the Bad Luck Foot*, *Cole Needs Women*, *Aletta Out of Water*, *Life on a Limb*, *Ninjas vs. Guilt*, *Enrique Wrecks the World*, *Why Do We Put Up With Them?*, *A Knock on My Door* and *Behind My Behind*.

RACING TO ZERO: IN PURSUIT OF ZERO WASTE

Director **Christopher Beaver** produces and directs multi-media projects concerned with the human experience of the environment. His films as a producer, writer, and director include *Dark Circle*, a feature documentary, winner of a National Emmy Award and a Certificate of Special Merit from the Academy Awards documentary committee, *Treasures of the Greenbelt and Secrets of the Bay*, about San Francisco Bay and the surrounding open countryside. *Tales of the San Joaquin – A River Journey* about California's Central Valley, nominated for the Pare Lorentz Award of the International Documentary Association and his work-in-progress *Tulare, The Vanished Lake*, reflect his recent focus on water issues and how they affect the environment.

Producer **Diana Fuller** is a freelance curator, editor, and producer and the on-going director of the Screenwriting Program at the Community of Writers at Squaw Valley. She is the editor of *Art/Women/California 1950-2000: Parallels and Intersections*, published in 2004, by University of California Berkeley Press. She has been curator for contemporary art exhibitions for forty years. She serves on the Boards of the SVCOW, the Artists in Residence Program at Recology and the Conflict Awareness Project. She was the last president of the Film Arts Foundation.

SOFT VENGEANCE: ALBIE SACHS AND THE NEW SOUTH AFRICA

Director/Producer **Abby Ginzberg** has been producing and directing award-winning documentary films for the last thirty years. Her work has focused on character-driven stories, racial and gender discrimination and social justice issues, and has been shown in film/video festivals and broadcast on public television networks nationally and internationally. Abby is in post-production on *Agents of Change: Black Students and the Transformation of the American University*. Abby just completed production on a half hour dramatic film entitled, *Walk the Walk*, which is designed to jump start a conversation about how to confront and overcome the current obstacles to creating a truly diverse workforce within the legal profession. Abby's most recent feature length documentary, *Cruz Reynoso: Sowing the Seeds of Justice* has won Accolade and Davey Awards. Abby was consulting producer on *The Barber of Birmingham*, produced by Gail Dolgin and Robin Fryday, which was nominated for a 2012 Academy Award. Ginzberg's recent films include *A Tale of Two Cities* which won a CINE Golden Eagle award and *Opportunity of a Lifetime*. Ginzberg has produced numerous award-winning films documenting the successes of programs for at-risk and underserved youth that deserve, but rarely get public attention. These films, whose "stars" include college bound low income students (*Vanguard in the Vanguard*), graduates of successful drug court programs (*Recovering Lives, Uncovering Dreams*), and AmeriCorps members (*Everyday Heroes*). Profiling another unsung hero of the legal profession, Ginzberg produced and directed *Doing Justice: The Life and Trials of Arthur Kinoy* which portrayed civil rights lawyer Kinoy's

landmark cases which began with the Rosenbergs and continued through Watergate. She was selected as a 2008 Gerbode Foundation fellow.

UNFAIR GAME: THE POLITICS OF POACHING

Director/Producer **John Antonelli**, and his company The Mill Valley Film Group, have been producing award-winning documentary and educational projects for theatrical distribution, cable TV, PBS, syndication, and for an impressive list of corporate clients for the last thirty years. Antonelli is currently completing post-production on *Sam Cooke—Crossing Over*, which was funded by ITVS and NBPC and was broadcast on PBS' American Masters series in 2010. The series was nominated for Outstanding Nonfiction Series. *Global Focus: The New Environmentalists*, their half hour program narrated by Robert Redford features stories of grassroots activists from around the world. The program airs on KQED and the Sundance Channel and has screened at film festivals from Barcelona to New Zealand. Antonelli is a segment producer, writer and editor. The program has won two regional Emmy Awards. Antonelli produced and directed. It is available on Netflix. *Dreaming of Tibet*, their hour long documentary on Tibetan exiles, was distributed to PBS stations nationally and is available educationally through Bullfrog Films. Antonelli produced and wrote. *The Spirit of the Himalayas*, their documentary on the work of the American Himalayan Foundation in Nepal, is currently airing on PBS stations, distributed through the National Educational Television Association. Antonelli produced and wrote. Their loving look at three generations of Italian American culture, *Little Italy*, aired on many PBS stations through the American Program Service. Antonelli produced and wrote. Their feature-length film *Kerouac: King of the Beats* has played theatrically in every major city in the US and Canada and was distributed theatrically by October Films. It is scheduled to be re-released on HD Blu Ray by Kultur International Films.

WORSE THAN POOP!

Director/Producer **Vanessa Warheit** is a filmmaker, a mother, a teacher, a Climate Reality Leader with Al Gore's Climate Reality Project and a member/owner of New Day Films. Her work has been shown nationally on PBS, at film festivals and via broadcast around the world.

For the full program, press material, photos and other details visit www.unaff.org

The award winning UNAFF (the United Nations Association Film Festival) held annually in October at Stanford, Palo Alto, East Palo Alto and San Francisco, now in its 18th year has grown to be one of the oldest and most respected documentary film festivals in the United States. UNAFF was originally conceived to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It was founded by Stanford educator and film critic Jasmina Bojic with the participation of the Stanford Film Society and the UNA Midpeninsula Chapter.

In 2014 the ICFT (International Council for Film, Television and Audiovisual Communication of UNESCO) presented the UNESCO Fellini Medal to Jasmina Bojic, Founder and Executive Director of UNAFF, in recognition of her exceptional contribution in promoting the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights through the art of documentary film.