



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 19, 2017

Media Contact:

Meghan Hurder, Publicist

meghan@unaff.org

**ART AND POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT IS EXAMINED AS THE 20th UNITED
NATIONS ASSOCIATION FILM FESTIVAL CONTINUES
ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26th
AT THE ANDERSON COLLECTION AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY**

CUBA, CUBANO, CANIBANO (*Cuba/USA*)

Cuba, Cubano, Canibano explores the masterful photographs of Cuban photographer Raul Canibano for an American audience. In the film, Canibano talks about his life and work, Foothill College photography professor Ron Herman and other photographers discuss what makes these photographs extraordinary. Directed by Mary Skinner. 4:15pm. **Filmmaker present.**

LANA GETS HER TALK (*Canada*)

A cinematic observation of Indigenous artist Lana Whiskeyjack as she works to complete a mixed-media sculpture of a tortured face, the face of her uncle. Lana calls the piece "Losing My Talk". This brief study of an artist and her work helps us come to some understanding of the trauma experienced by Canada's Indigenous people in the Indian residential school system, of its enduring effects on the children of survivors of the IRS, and of one woman's journey to recover what was lost: dignity, identity, and voice. A story of resilience, Lana's journey speaks of the power of Indigenous "ways of being" in our time. Directed by Beth Wishart MacKenzie. 5:00pm. **Filmmaker Present.**

Panel Discussion to follow "Art – The Benefits and Risk of Political Engagement"

THE GHOST IN THE MACHINE (*Australia*)

The Ghost in the Machine is a performative drawing by visual artist, Jeremy Hawkes. Diagnosed with early-onset Parkinson's Disease, Hawkes suspends his medication, allowing the tremors to suffuse his work. With a starkly lyrical tone, Jeremy's process is a study of identity and pathology in the face of fear and acceptance. Co-directed by Poppy Walker and Sophie Hexter. 7:10pm

SEMBENE! (Senegal)

Meet Ousmane Sembene, the African freedom fighter who used stories as his weapon. *Sembene!* tells the story of the Sembene, the father of African cinema, taking you from Dakar, Senegal to the docks of Marseille, France to New York City in a career that spanned forty years and resulted in films shocking the sociopolitical power structures of the day. Co-directed by Samba Gadjigo and Jason Silverman. 7:20pm

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 20th 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.

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.