

The African Diaspora Film Festival Celebrates Women's Month

Women behind the camera are the focus of this month's ADIFF film program to be held at Teachers College, Columbia University from March 25 to 27, 2016.

NEW YORK, NEW YORK, USA, March 18, 2016 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The selection of ADIFF's CELEBRATING WOMEN'S MONTH program is comprised of ten films from Senegal, New Zealand, Cape Verde, Mozambique, Canada, USA and Brazil.

Opening the series is a free program celebrating the anniversary of Senegalese pioneer filmmaker Khady Sylla who was born on March 27, 1963. Khady Sylla's work still resonates today. She belongs to a group of African female directors whose body of work has tremendously enriched the production of African films in the past 20-30 years.

Highlights of the program include:

*The US Premiere screening of Mina Shum's film "[Ninth Floor](#)" on the Sir George Williams University riot that took place in 1969. "Ninth Floor" is a film on a little known chapter in the history of race relations in Montreal, Canada and the struggle against institutional racism in institutions of Higher Education.

*The screening of [White Lies](#) by Dana Rotberg and *White Like the Moon* by Marina Gonzales Palmier, two films that received their US theatrical release two weeks ago to great popular and critical

acclaim. *White lies* is a women-centered drama set in the Maori community in colonial times New Zealand that explores issues of identity, of self-definition, and looks at the social attitudes towards women. *White Like the Moon* is about a Mexican-American girl struggles to keep her identity when her mother forces her to bleach her skin.



A scene from *WHITE LIES*, directed by Dana Rotberg.



The life of women after military service

* The drama [Stand Down Soldier](#) by Jeryl Prescott Sales, tells the story of Sergeant Stacy Armstrong who returns home from three deployments suffering with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). The film explores some of the issues many returning soldiers confront in their civil life including mental health issues, loneliness, and drug addiction for self-medication. A panel discussion regarding mental health, women and communities of color will follow the film screening.



"Ninth Floor" - US Premiere! - info at www.NYADIFF.org

Other films in the program are *Sexy Money* by Karin Junger about poor Nigerian women who were prostitutes in Europe and try to make a life for themselves after they are sent back home; *Cape Verde, My Love* by Ana Lucia Ramos Lisboa a drama that takes a critical look at the dynamic between Cape

Verdean men and women; *Nelio's Story* that depicts the life of an orphan boy in Mozambique who escapes the civil war; and *Abdias Do Nascimento* by Aida Marques, about the Afro-Brazilian scholar, writer, activist and politician who was a significant figure in Brazil's Black Movement.

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Thematically, "White Lies" is essential cinema, unafraid to delve into female issues even contemporary societies grapple with.

Tomris Laffly, Film Journal International

For more information about the Women's Month program, to receive screeners and high resolution images please contact Diarah N'Daw-Spech at (212) 864-1760/ fax (212) 316-6020 or e-mail pr@nyadiff.org. Festival web site: www.nyadiff.org.

The African Diaspora International Film Festival is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization. Support for ADIFF come from ArtMattan Productions; the Office of the Vice President for Diversity and Community Affairs, Teachers College, Columbia University; the New York City Council in the Arts, WBAI and Public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency.

ADIFF'S WOMEN'S MONTH CELEBRATION AT A GLANCE

WHERE

Teachers College, Columbia University
525 West 120th Street – 263 Macy
Train 1 to 116th Street
Free street parking Saturday and Sunday

WHEN

Friday, March 25 to Sunday, March 27, 2016

SCHEDULE

Friday, March 25
6:30pm - Films by Senegalese Filmmaker, Khady Sylla
Colobane Express & The Silent Monologue

Saturday, March 26

1pm - Sexy Money

2:45pm - Cape Verde, My Love

4:30pm - Stand Down Soldier + Panel Discussion

7:30pm - Ninth Floor

Sunday, March 27

2pm - Nelio's Story

4pm - Stories of Colorism

6:30pm - Abdias Do Nascimento

TICKET PRICES

Opening Program Friday, March 25 FREE

Saturday and Sunday screenings: \$12/\$10

Weekend Pass: \$35

CONTACT

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This press release can be viewed online at: <http://www.einpresswire.com>

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