NFMLA Celebrates Global Documentary Cinema

MOVIE NEWS

By Hanna El-Mohandess
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The stories of a missing meaningful interaction, immigrant musicians trying to set a world record, two boys working in a gold mine, a storyteller's return home, a gay liberation activist and the prisoners of the world were among the highlights of the NFMLA Film Festival's annual documentary presentation, DocuSlate.

The Dec. 7 line-up showcased six programs which included five feature documentaries and seven short documentaries. The curation was a journey around the globe, featuring stories from Kenya to Canada. Filmmakers shared thought-provoking documentaries that told universal stories of families coping with breast cancer, drew parallels between genocides continents apart, took us behind the scenes of human interest stories that captured the evening news, and so much more.

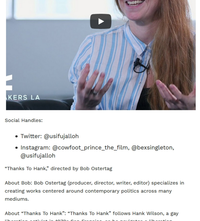
NFMLA showcases films by filmmakers of all backgrounds throughout the year, in addition to its special InFocus programming which celebrates diversity, inclusion and region. All filmmakers are welcome and encouraged to submit their projects which will be considered for all upcoming NFMLA Festivals, regardless of the programming.

"The Cowfoot Prince," directed by Bex Singleton

About Bex: Bex is a documentary director and photographer, passionate about exploring and representing individual stories and emotional journeys and examining what they reveal about how we live.

About "The Cowfoot Prince": "The Cowfoot Prince" follows Usifu Jalloh, a Sierra Leonean storyteller. Fim his adopted home in London back to the village where he was born.

Watch the NFMLA interview with Bex Singleton, director of The Cowfoot Prince:



Social Handles:

- Twitter: @usifujalloh
- Instagram: @cowfoot_prince_the_film, @bexsingleton, @usifujalloh

"Thanks To Hank," directed by Bob Ostertag

About Bob: Bob Ostertag (producer, director, writer, editor) specializes in creating works centered around contemporary politics across many mediums.

About "Thanks To Hank": "Thanks To Hank" follows Hank Wilson, a gay liberation activist in 1970s San Francisco, as he navigates a liberation movement, a plague, and countless unsung heroes.

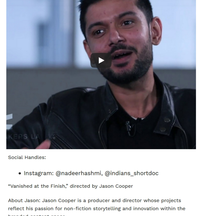
Watch the NFMLA interview with Bob Ostertag, director of "Thanks to Hank":

"Indiana," directed by Nadeer Hashmi

About Nadeer: Nadeer's work amplifies hard-hitting human-interest stories, often rooted in politics and history, to create true reflections of society's reality.

About "Indiana": "Indiana" delves into the politics of hate and discrimination through analyzing two shockingly similar periods of mass genocide.

Watch the NFMLA interview with Nadeer Hashmi, director of "Indiana":



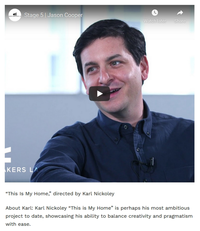
Social Handles:

- Instagram: @nadeerhashmi, @indiana_shortdoc

"Vanished at the Finish," directed by Jason Cooper

About Jason: Jason Cooper is a producer and director whose projects reflect his passion for non-fiction storytelling and innovation within the branded content space.

About "Vanished at the Finish": "Vanished at the Finish" is the remarkable true story of Giancisaudio Marengo, a mentally challenged, recovering drug addict from Italy who mysteriously disappeared after completing the 2015 New York City Marathon.

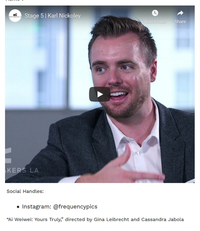


"This Is My Home," directed by Karl Nickoley

About Karl: Karl Nickoley "This Is My Home" is perhaps his most ambitious project to date, showcasing his ability to balance creativity and pragmatism with ease.

About "This Is My Home": Two Irish immigrant musicians embark on a quest to set a World Record playing 60 shows in all 50 states in just 35 days – what could go wrong?

Watch the NFMLA interview with Karl Nickoley, director of "This Is My Home":



Social Handles:

- Instagram: @frequencypics

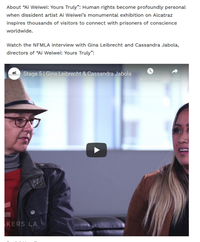
"Ai Weiwei: Yours Truly," directed by Gina Leibrecht and Cassandra Jabola

About Gina: Gina Leibrecht's career began in 1998 in collaboration with the late documentary filmmaker, and pioneer of the form, Les Blank, with whom she developed a passion for producing, directing and editing feature documentaries.

About Cassandra: Cassandra Jabola's strengths as a filmmaker lie in capturing meaningful interactions and crafting stories that inspire human connection.

About "Ai Weiwei: Yours Truly": Human rights become profoundly personal when dissident artist Ai Weiwei's monumental exhibition on Alcatraz inspires thousands of visitors to connect with prisoners of conscience worldwide.

Watch the NFMLA interview with Gina Leibrecht and Cassandra Jabola, directors of "Ai Weiwei: Yours Truly":



Social Handles:

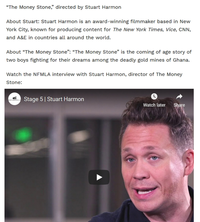
- Twitter: @weiweiai, @gina.leibrecht
- Instagram:@aiww

"The Money Stone," directed by Stuart Harmon

About Stuart: Stuart Harmon is an award-winning filmmaker based in New York City, known for producing content for *The New York Times*, *Vice*, *CNN*, and A&E in countries all around the world.

About "The Money Stone": "The Money Stone" is the coming of age story of two boys fighting for their dreams among the deadly gold mines of Ghana.

Watch the NFMLA interview with Stuart Harmon, director of The Money Stone:



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