



## **2017 WIFTV Whistler Film Festival Film Market Mentor, Shannon Walsh, Announced at Martini Madness**

### **For Immediate Release**

Vancouver, BC (October 5, 2017) – On Wednesday, October 4th, Women in Film & Television Vancouver (WIFTV) announced the recipient of the WIFTV Whistler Film Festival Film Market Mentorship during their annual fundraising party, Martini Madness. The red carpet was rolled out for the annual event and spirited attendees arrived in full costume inspired the Gorgeous Ladies Of Wrestling (G.L.O.W.) theme.

**Shannon Walsh** was awarded this year's **WIFTV Whistler Film Festival Film Market Mentorship** for her project *Unidentified Minor*. Shannon is a filmmaker, interdisciplinary theorist, and associate professor in the Department of Theatre & Film at the University of British Columbia. Her feature documentary, *Jeppe on a Friday* (2013), screened at the 56th Venice Biennale, as well as the Pompidou Centre in Paris.

"I'm honoured to receive the WIFTV Whistler Film Festival Mentorship!" said Shannon Walsh. "This is an invaluable experience to work on prepping my feature film for market and gaining valuable advice and support in getting this film made. I am extremely excited to participate, share, and learn at this year's festival!"

"The Whistler Film Festival has supported this program since 2012, and we are delighted to welcome a WFF Alumni, Shannon Walsh, and her project, *Unidentified Minor*, and Robyn Wiener to participate in this year's WIFTV Market Mentorship at the festival," says Angie Nolan, Director of Industry Programming.

The goal of the mentorship is to provide the recipient with experience in preparing her feature film project for market. Shannon will receive industry immersion at the Whistler Film Festival, as well as personalized coaching sessions with an experienced producer. This year's mentor is award-winning Producer and past President of WIFTV, Robyn Wiener. Robyn has produced the feature films *Numb* and *Black Fly* and has co-produced and line produced *Lawrence & Holloman*, *American Mary*, and *Amazon Falls* as well as numerous short films. Robyn is also a past WIFTV recipient of the Wayne Black Service Award and an active member in the community. She is currently working as a Production Manager and Line Producer with Lighthouse Pictures.

During the evening, WIFTV took the opportunity to present their upcoming programming, which includes Coyote, Raven, Spider, Wendigo Tricksters and Writers Feature Film Writing Program for Indigenous Women, From Our Dark Side Genre Concept Competition, the WIFTV Actor Mentorship Program, and the William F. White Production Management Mentorship for the Independent Producer.

WIFTV would like to thank everyone that attended and contributed to another successful networking event celebrating women filmmakers at VIFF. The event is not possible without the generous contributions of the community, in particular: Keslow Camera, Matrix Production Services, William F. White, Villa Star of the Sea, Bill Hurst, Orchard Film Studios, Nanoose Bay Cottage, Bridge Studios, DGC BC, Finale, North Shore Studios, The Ridge Studios, Mystique Films, Craft Cave Sound, Park Sound Studio, Soundwrite, Lapham Sales & Rentals, Roslyn Muir, ElaSpa, Nuba, Bauhaus Restaurant, Nook, Line 21, Shimon Karmel Photography, Magnolia Regeneration, Whistler Film Festival, On Set Headsets, Spark Animation, Ingrid Torrance, In Focus Film School and Crazy8s.

**Women In Film & Television Vancouver (WIFTV)** is an internationally affiliated not-for-profit society committed to advancing, celebrating and promoting the artistic practice and careers of women working in screen-based media. [www.womeninfilm.ca](http://www.womeninfilm.ca)

#### **About the Whistler Film Festival Society**

The Whistler Film Festival Society (WFFS) is a charitable cultural organization dedicated to furthering the art of film by providing programs that focus on the discovery, development and promotion of new talent culminating with a must attend festival for artists, the industry and audiences in Whistler. From November 29th to December 3th, the Whistler Film Festival will welcome film fans and filmmakers to experience its 17th edition featuring fresh films, special guests, epic events, talent and industry programs, and time to play in North America's premier mountain resort destination. [whistlerfilmfestival.com](http://whistlerfilmfestival.com).

**Shannon Walsh:** [shannonwalsh.ca](http://shannonwalsh.ca)

**Robin Wiener:** [synergycinema.ca](http://synergycinema.ca)

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