



whistler
FILM FESTIVAL
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WIFT-V Whistler Film Festival Film Market Preparation Mentorship Awarded to Jen Walden

For Immediate Release:

November 9, 2018 (Vancouver, BC) — Women in Film & Television Vancouver (WIFT-V), in association with the Whistler Film Festival (WFF) is pleased to announce that Jennifer Walden is the recipient of the 2018 WIFTV Whistler Film Festival Film Market Preparation Mentorship.

Jennifer Walden has been awarded the **WIFTV Whistler Film Festival Film Market Preparation Mentorship** for her project *Elijah and the Rock Creature*. Jennifer Walden is a Yellowknife filmmaker and noted visual artist whose distinctive style explores Canadian and Northern life through people, wildlife and topography. Her unique eye for aesthetic detail and captivating storylines has resulted in three award-winning short films. Jennifer's first short, *Painted Girl*, found success as one of nine national finalists in the CBC's Short Film Face Off competition and her first feature *Elijah and the Rock Creature* has been developed from a script that was chosen for the IndieCan 20K contest. *Elijah and the Rock Creature* was shot entirely on location in the Northwest Territories with a northern cast and crew. The film opened the Yellowknife International Film Festival in September 2018 and will be screening at the 2018 Whistler film Festival.

Upon learning of the news, Jen expressed, *"I am absolutely thrilled to have the opportunity to participate in this mentorship. I am passionate about filmmaking, and I'm also passionate about learning. The chance to have one on one sessions with a seasoned professional is a dream come true. With my first feature film screening at this year's festival, I'm so motivated to keep my career moving forward. I think this mentorship will be the perfect opportunity to help me do that."*

Jen will receive industry immersion at the Whistler Film Festival, as well as personalized coaching sessions with an experienced producer. This year's mentor is producer and creative partner at Sepia Films, Tina Pehme. For the last two decades, Tina has developed projects and relationships internationally through her extensive work on US, Canadian and International co-productions. Her background in production allows her to bring a hands-on knowledge of physical production as well as the ability to anticipate production needs in a variety of budget ranges and co-production scenarios. As a partner in Sepia Films, Tina has developed,

consulted and produced for both film and television in Canada, the US, India, the United Kingdom, China, South Africa, Ireland, Spain and Argentina.

The WIFTV Whistler Film Festival Market Preparation Mentorship is going into its 7th consecutive year. Special thanks to the WIFTV Whistler Film Festival Mentorship jury which consisted of Christian Bruyere, Producer, Mystic Films Ltd; Nick Kendall, Coordinator and Documentary Instructor, MOPA at Capilano University; Eileen Hoeter, Line Producer and former WiFTI International President; and Dusty Kelly, Secretary & Business Agent Vancouver Musician's Association and Chair of the selection committee and member of the WIFTV board.

The Whistler Film Festival Society 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, industry and audiences in Whistler. Find out more at whistlerfilmfestival.com.

Women In Film and Television Vancouver (WIFTV) is a member driven, not-for-profit, society which addresses systemic barriers to women's equal participation in the production and dissemination of screen-based media. Womeninfilm.ca

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