

WIFTV Community Outreach Report – April 2019 to March 2020

Chair – Ashley Evans

THE CINEWORKS/WIFTV/DOC BC SHOWCASE

The Cineworks Showcase is a monthly event, a collaboration of Cineworks, DOC BC and WIFTV, that gives members the opportunity to screen their work. It is particularly helpful to filmmakers who are about to hit the film circuit as they get the opportunity for audience feedback. They also get to experience, quite often, their first Q & A about their project. WIFTV's youngest member, Esabella Strickland, was only 13 years old when she screened her first short film *My Red Ball* in 2020.

Before covid hit in March 2020, we had a great WIFTV presence at all the showcases. In total, 12 WIFTV films were screened from April 2019 to March 2020. The March Film and Media showcase was canceled due to covid and has been on hiatus since.

FILMS & FILMMAKERS

Everybody Matters - Director, Roisin Clarke

Nowhere - Director, Cassandra Frechette

Bestie - Director, Leila Ben-Abdallah

Coco Blue - Producer, Kendra Westwood

Wanáxws Chet S7ulh Slhenlhánaý (We Honour our Women) - Director: Anika Syskakis

A Typical Fairytale - Director, Producer, Actress, Annette Reilly

Collide - Director, Jessica M. Bradford, Producer, Melanie Rees Skehar

She Wishes for the Cloths of Heaven - Director/Producer, Jessica M. Bradford

Red Eye - S. Director, Siobhan McCarthy, Producers, Lori Watt & Asha Gill

It's Not You. It's Not Me. - Producer, Jaymee Mak

My Red Ball - Director/Actress, Esabella Strickland, Co-director Sabastian Marin

Eagle Feather: When They Took the Children - Tammy Lynne

It is evident that WIFTV is bustling with filmmakers eager to show their films. Rather than having to chase down filmmakers, we have more filmmakers contact us to ask if they can share their work. The Facebook WIFTV private group is a great communication tool for submissions, as we always get submissions after a post. The curation of the films primarily comes from Cineworks and they do a great job of selecting the films based on theme and length. The three organizations met several times to discuss an organized way of keeping track of the films submitted, the filmmaker's information, and communicating between the organizations. Cineworks created a Google spreadsheet and Google form that the three organizations now use to submit potential showcasing films. That way, all three organizations are privy to all the info pertaining to all the films.

FUTURE OF THE SHOWCASE

The Film and Media Showcase has been an important program in supporting women filmmakers in screening their films and celebrating their work. Due to the limitations that the pandemic is putting on in-person gatherings, events such as the showcase will need to be re-imagined perhaps to a digital platform.

OUTREACH SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

WIFTV board members had many opportunities to speak in public. Some of them include WITV's prior president Shannon Kaplun speaking at VIWIFF in February 2020 at the Festival Launch party at MBAR; The Creative Women in Leadership with CMPA/WIFTV for a Q and A with Lisa Jackson at CBC in February 2020. Carolyn Combs, previous Executive Director spoke at the Boston Film Commission, Frontiers market in Montreal, and a market in Toronto. Shannon Kaplun spoke at a Matrix Mixer in August 2019, and Ashley Evans and Krystal Paraboo represented WIFTV at the Queer Film Festival in August 2019.

Please note this list is not exclusive nor does it include the Women in Film and TV International Film Festival speaking engagements.