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## **Women In Film & Television Spotlight Awards Return March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada** – Women & Film & Television Vancouver (WIFTV) will be honouring the eight 2011 Spotlight Award winners at the Opening Night Feature Screening & Festival Reception of the [6th Annual Vancouver Women in Film Festival](#) at 7:00 pm on Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at the Vancity Theatre in Vancouver.

Established in 1996, the Spotlight Awards bring together the BC Film community to celebrate the outstanding achievements of BC women in screen-based media. This year sees the addition of two new awards: the **WIFTV Artistic Innovation Award** and the **PleaseAdjustYourSet.com Award** for advocacy.

**Host – Amanda Tapping.** Recipient of the Woman of Vision Award in 2009 for her groundbreaking work as both Producer and Actor on **Sanctuary**. Amanda portrays different aspects of female minds and personalities through her different characters. **Stargate SG-1's** Samantha Carter or **Sanctuary's** Helen Magnus are probably the two most prominent examples of her philosophy. We are honoured to have her host the Spotlight Awards. *"I'm thrilled to be asked to host this year's Spotlight Awards,"* says Tapping.

**Woman of the Year – Lynn Booth.** This award is presented to a woman who has achieved significant success in the field of film or television, and who is recognized for mentoring other women in the industry. Producer Lynn Booth is honoured for her commitment to hiring women in above the line positions (Directors, Writers, Editors, Directors of Photography) on her productions and for her body of work. Lynn formed her company, Make Believe Media, in 1999 and since then has created an exceptional range of work in documentary and factual film and television including **The Perfect Husband, The Whistleblower, I Want a Woman, Mandrake the Magician C.D. Hoy: Portraits from the Frontier, Pretty Boys, Secrets: A Parent's Guide, Bump and Grind, Paris Stories,** and **Corporations in the Classroom**. Her documentary series include **Very Bad Men, True Pulp Murder** and **Make or Break TV** and currently the series, **The Devil You Know**. *"I am most pleased to be acknowledged for what I love doing – telling stories, with women, above the line, behind the camera, in the edit suite, and over the years. My thanks to all the women I have worked with making film and television. I am grateful to you all and accept this award in memory of my first DOP and Editor, Laurie Long,"* says Booth.

**Artistic Achievement Award – Katrin Bowen.** This award is presented to a woman who has achieved a significant success in the field of film or television, or who has created a significant film or television production in the past year, and who is recognized for mentoring other women in the industry. This year's recipient is Katrin Bowen for her outstanding feature film debut **Amazon Falls**. *"When the seed of the idea came for Amazon Falls, I was reminded of when I was an 18 year-old B-movie actress in a cutthroat town. During that time, I was mentored by a group of women who taught me the rules for survival. Rule number one was 'Never Forget Your Girls',"* says Bowen. "I want to thank the WIFTV community who has been a huge support for me through the years. Your encouragement enabled me to step up to the plate and do the next to impossible. Thank you. And a deep thank you to the cast and crew of **Amazon Falls** and the WIDC Award with whom I share this honour."

**WIFTV Artistic Innovation Award (new this year) - Ann-Marie Fleming.** This award honours a woman who demonstrates vision, experimentation and innovation in the telling of women's stories in screen based media, and who has created a significant body of work in these forms or an outstanding new work. Ann-Marie Fleming receives this award for her body of work which includes **I Won, Running (Heart**



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**Body, Mind, Spirit), Landslide, M.O.O.D, The French Guy, The Magical Life of Long Tack Sam, Blue Skies, New Shoes, My Boyfriend Gave Me Peaches, You Take Care Now** and also for the 2010 short film **I Was A Child of Holocaust Survivors**. *"I'm really honoured to be the first recipient of the WIFTV Artistic Innovation Award! I've always tried to push the boundaries of what I do with each new project, and, frankly, it's just really nice to have that acknowledged by this community,"* says Fleming.

**Wayne Black Service Award - Dusty Kelly.** This award honours a woman with a 'behind-the-scenes' role and for her continued efforts within the film and television community. This award is named in memory of Wayne Black of Alpha Cine who gave tirelessly of his time and talent to help filmmakers. Dusty Kelly is honoured for her volunteer work within the industry for many organizations including her work on the landmark BCIFP Women's Initiative Steering Committee and for her mentoring of new filmmakers. *"I am truly honoured to be recognized by my peers, I wouldn't want to work in any other industry, so much has been achieved, and yet there is much more work to be done. Thank you,"* says Kelly.

**Honourary Friend – Alexandra Raffe.** This award recognizes a person who has played a significant role in supporting women in the industry and who has promoted the success of the organization. Alex Raffe is honoured for her commitment to hiring women above the line (Directors, Writers, and Editors) on her new series **Endgame**, and for mentoring women in the industry for over twenty years. *"How wonderful to receive an award for simply choosing the best people for the job!"* says Raffe.

**Sharon Gibbon Lifetime Member Award – Deb Sears.** This award honours a member in recognition of her volunteer work with WIFTV in advancing the organization's goals in the British Columbia film and television community. The award is named in memory of Sharon Gibbon, who exemplified these qualities in a career cut short too soon. Deb Sears receives this award for her work hosting WIFTV's Networking Breakfast over many years. *"WIFTV is powered by volunteer steam and volunteering for an organization in which I hold membership is a must. I joined WIFTV in 2001 and have served in various volunteer capacities over the years. It's very much a "win-win"– I get to develop new skills and build relationships with amazing industry people in the course of volunteering and, the organization is able to run programs and services they may not otherwise be able to offer were it not for volunteer involvement. I'm extremely honoured to be recognized for my volunteer efforts in MCing the monthly WIFTV Networking Breakfasts,"* says Sears.

**Kodak Image Award – Lindsay George.** This award honours a DOP or Director for excellence in a recent short work that shows excellence in overall production value or a unique, visionary approach to cinematography. Lindsay George receives this award for her cinematography on over 14 projects in the last five years including 2010's feature film **A Night for Dying Tigers** which premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival. *"Many thanks to Women in Film and Television for this honour. It's always a pleasure to be recognized by your peers and I know this award will lead to many new opportunities for my career in cinematography,"* says George.

**PleaseAdjustYourSet.com Award (new this year) - Rina Fraticelli.** This award honours a person for advocacy in the promotion of gender equity in the film, television or screen-based media. Rina Fraticelli receives this award for spearheading the groundbreaking international conference SEXMONEYMEDIA in Vancouver in 2010. Inspired by the studies produced by the BC Institute for Film Professionals, Rina created Women in View, a national association of media professionals whose goal is the achievement of greater diversity and balance in Canadian media, from the standpoint of employment equity, creative authority and gender representation. In October 2010, Women in View collaborated with WIFTV and





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Simon Fraser University's Centre for the Policy Studies on Culture and Communities to produce SEXMONEYMEDIA, an international gathering of leaders from across the media spectrum with the goal of engendering a dynamic and equitable media landscape for the 21st century. Rina has a wealth of experience in Canadian arts. She has produced a rich catalogue of award-winning documentaries and arts films including the Genie award-winning *Fiction and Other Truths*. She was Executive Producer of Studio D, the NFB's ground-breaking women's studio where she oversaw the production of such stellar works as *Five Feminist Minutes*, *Forbidden Love*, *The Company of Strangers*, and the creation of New Initiatives In Film, an innovative programme providing training and production opportunities to women from diverse communities. From 2002-2007 she was executive producer of the Pacific and Yukon Studio of the NFB. "I'm very honoured by this award and thank *PleaseAdjustYourSet.com* and *WIFTV* for creating awareness of advocacy issues in screen based media," says Fraticelli.

***Established in 1989, Women In Film & Television Vancouver is an internationally-affiliated non-profit society committed to advancing & celebrating women in screen-based media. We are the Vancouver chapter of Women in Film & Television International (WIFTI), which counts more than 10,000 members world-wide.***

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