#### LA FEMME INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

# About LA Femme.org and LA Femme International Film Festival

The chief goal for LA Femme International Film Festival is discovering emerging artists, presenting alternative points of view, platforming films



and filmmakers that have strong enough legs to secure domestic and worldwide distribution and to assist in creating distribution outlets for such artists. We want to help get your film distributed and you recognized!

LA Femme now has a first look distribution partner which LA Femme successfully paired over six of our filmmakers with distribution for their films screening at the 2013 festival. This distribution relationship is exciting since all our films are screened by our distribution partner annually. So, distribution is open to all those selected to screen not just the winners of the festival.

Some of our winners have enjoyed the following: Winner "LA Femme Best Feature" category was "Green Street Hooligans" opened in 2000 theaters nationwide. All our festival selected films have gone on to gain recognition for their films, agency representation, and production deals. "The Colt" award winner was shown on the Hallmark Channel. "Beautiful Dreamer" award winner was picked up by Showtime, "My Mother Children of War" winner received limited theatrical distribution. "TRE" received distribution. "Moondance Alexander" award winner opened in selected theaters nationwide, "Counting Backwards" directed by Aprill Winneyand and "Love Hurts" directed and Written by Barra Grant both gained distribution. "B-Girls" Written and Directed by Emily Dell went on to get domestic distribution, "Truth About Kerry" Written and Directed by Katie Torpey has received distribution and the subject of the documentary "Atlantic Crossing: "A Robot's Daring Mission" Produced by Dena Seidel lives in a National Museum to name just a few or our filmmaker successes. Five of our Documentaries were screened on the Independent Documentary Channel in 2012 and IDC were judges for festival year 2011 and participated with us until they were purchased by another company. Our filmmakers receive distribution deals from the major studios and international distribution companies annually!

Film Festivals and their events have become a powerful advertising tool and some support general groups. We have remained a step ahead of our competition through exemplary programming, networking, and professional panel events. We offer a professional atmosphere which creates a sense of 'opportunity' for participants to network with their peers and industry professionals. Our operating credo is: "By Women for Everyone."

We want all our filmmakers to go forward and secure distribution and recognition for their talents and we help you get there.

# **DISTRIBUTION FOR FESTIVAL WINNERS:**

Our Distribution Partner screens all the films from the festival and offers distribution deals annually to those selected to screen.

**EMPHASIS:** 

Our emphasis is on providing a complete film festival based on showcasing and celebrating commercially successful films written, directed, or produced by women and creating a system of access for those new to the industry directly to those established women industry professionals that they may not be able to access otherwise.

#### **SUMMARY:**

LA Femme International Film Festival is more than a festival it is an emergence of artistic, professional women who can make a difference in the entertainment community by creating productions that speak to a worldwide audience. We are the only festival of its kind to not only platform existing films and artists but will also assist in distribution and mentoring of such films and their artists. We also insure that our filmmakers get seen and are pro active in helping them active their dreams. Go to our website and read about our past honorees, panels, and our programming. We are the only woman's festival that has been around for almost a decade with a focus of really giving women in entertainment opportunities.

#### **GENERAL RULES**

PLEASE NOTE that our deadlines are not postmark deadlines. We must receive your submission materials in our Los Angeles office by these dates. Also note you will disqualify if you are screening in another woman's festival in LOS ANGELES during the same weekend as our festival. We want to ensure that our festival attendees are able to participate and network with our industry professionals and if your attention is split then you may not make the most of the events.

## DO I HAVE TO SELECT THE CATEGORY I AM SUBMITTING TO?

Yes do your best to determine where it may fit. If your film is selected for the Festival, our Programming Staff will determine which program best suits the project. Make sure your application is complete. You will need to select and submit under shorts, features, screenplay, commercial or music video. It is the mid length films that most filmmakers have questions regarding.

## DO YOU HAVE TO BE A WOMAN TO SUBMIT A FILM?

NO this film festival is to support and nurture the development of women in leading film positions. But you will need to follow the below guidelines.

- " A woman needs to be involved in **one** of the three film positions: **Director or Producer or Writer**"
- " Opening Night Premiere is by invitation only."
- "We accept films from all countries worldwide."
- " We accept music videos and commercials."

# **HOW DO YOU DISTINGUISH "SHORTS" FROM "FEATURES"?**

The requirements are different for narrative Feature Films, shorts or documentaries.

## **NARRATIVE FEATURE FILMS**

- " 1 to 40 minutes running length is considered a SHORT
- " 60 to 120 minutes running length is considered a FEATURE
- "40 to 59 minutes running length is considered a MID LENGTH FEATURE
- " 50 minutes or more running length is considered a FEATURE DOCUMENTARY
- "1 to 40 minutes running length is considered a SHORT DOCUMENTARY
- " 30 seconds to 5 minutes running length is considered a Commercial/Music Video
- " 15 minutes or less running length is considered a Mobisode
- " 30 minutes or less running length is considered a Webisode
- "any length is considered for a Game

Any film falling between the times will be accepted (as a MID LENGTH FILM) but decided upon by the festival staff what competition category it will be entered into.

# ANYTHING THAT FALLS BETWEEN WE WILL DECIDE WHAT CATEGORY OF FEATURE, DOCUMENTARY OR SHORT.

## WHEN DOES THE LA FEMME INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL TAKE PLACE?

The Festival will take place in OCTOBER in Los Angeles, CA

# **CAN I SUBMIT MY FILM AS A "ROUGH CUT"?**

"Rough Cuts," "Avid Cuts," or "Temp Prints" will be accepted for screening. You should always list directly on the tape box which elements of your film are missing. This will assist us in the judging process.

## CAN I SUBMIT MY FILM WITH A "TEMP TRACK" OR "SCRATCH MUSIC"?

"Temp Tracks," "Scratch Music," or "Temp Sound" will be accepted for screening and showing. Again, you should always list directly on the tape box which elements are missing.

#### CAN I ARRANGE A SCREENING FOR YOU OF MY FILM PRINT?

No. We now screen everything on?" DVD or Blue Ray DVD in our office.

#### DO YOU ACCEPT DVD IN PAL OR NTSC FORMAT?

We accept Blue Ray, DVD NTSC formats or PAL DVD formats ONLY- Region 0 and Region 1 only.

#### DOES LA FEMME PROJECT DIGITAL AT THE FESTIVAL?

Yes we do project on digital projection. However, the digital projection options are given at time of film selection in the festival.

## **HOW MANY FILMS CAN I SUBMIT?**

As many as you like. Or you can re-submit your film if it was not selected last year. However, each submitted film must have its own DVD, completed Submission Form, Entry Fee, and Supplemental Materials.

# DOES IT MATTER HOW BIG MY BUDGET WAS, OR IF I HAVE AN AGENT OR CELEBRITIES, OR IF IT'S BLACK & WHITE, OR VIDEO, OR GENRE?

Not at all. Just send in the work. We will be selecting a wide variety of projects so no worries. We want to see what the indie feature filmmaker is producing.

#### SO WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR? WHAT KIND OF FILMS STAND OUT?

Good story telling with at least one female in <u>one</u> of the three key positions, Director or Writer or Producer. We look for well crafted films of all kinds with diverse voices that push the limits.

# IF MY FILM IS NOT CHOSEN, MAY I SPEAK WITH A PROGRAMMER FOR NOTES OR FEEDBACK?

Unfortunately, no. With thousands of films to go through, we don't have enough time to speak or correspond with you individually about your film. Please forgive us. But what we will do is offer you one ticket to attend the festival and parties so that you can network if your film is NOT selected to screen.

## WHEN WILL I FIND OUT IF MY FILM WAS SELECTED?

We will contact you via email the first week of September for those selected. If you are not selected because of the volume of submissions we will not be able to notify you of your rejection. We are working to resolve this notification process but please be understanding we are a very small staff. Please make sure that the email address and telephone you provide will be operational at that time of festival selection which is in September. THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT.

#### DO YOU ACCEPT SUBMISSIONS ON DVD?

Yes, but since universal technical standards don't yet exist for burning and copying DVDs, please read

the following FAQ carefully. Must be able to play any region.

DVD's must be submitted in plastic safe cases. These are the industry standard push-button hub, literature clip, full sleeve for artwork, dark plastic cases. Size is 5 1/4" by 7 1/2".

DVD's must be formatted for Region Zone 1 / North America or Region Zone 0 / All Regions. No other zones are accepted in the submission process, including projects in International Category.

DVD's must be NTSC formatted in MPEG video using the code of your choice. Neither QuickTime (.mov) or Microsoft (.avi) files are accepted.

DVD's must not include labels or stickers of any kind: only laser printed artwork, if any, should be on the disc itself. If you are burning a consumer disc please write your Project Title, Film ID# and Contact # on the disc with a black Sharpie pen. PLEASE test your consumer-burned DVD on several makes and models of players BEFORE sending it to our offices. If in doubt, always send a back-up. Technical problems can delay the completion of your submission.

ADDRESS FOR THE FESTIVAL

LA Femme Inc./LA Femme International Film Festival 324 S Beverly Dr. #436 Beverly Hills, CA 90212

## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS:**

All submission fees are non-refundable. No exceptions. All entries need to release and indemnify completely the film festival from any liability on lawsuits or pending contractual disputes. The festival is not responsible for filmmaker contracts or for talent contracts or payments. The filmmaker is responsible for all clearances for their production. The Festival Committee reserves the right to determine the eligibility of any project. Works will be categorized in competitive categories at the sole discretion of the Festival Committee. Works will be considered for competition only if they have been Directed, Written or Produced by a Woman. Works completed within two years prior to the festival year date or latter are eligible for competition. All submitted materials and Screeners become property of La Femme Film Festival and cannot be returned. No refunds. By submitting this material you acknowledge La Femme Inc. has the right to copy any submitted material for La Femme Film Festival for non-commercial use only and promotion of your trailer on LA Femme website. LA Femme has the right during the festival to use and project selected films trailers, stills, talent and crew or producers names and likeness for use in commercials, printed ads, programs, website advertising for the festival, and website streaming of festival programming of the film festival. All trailers will be posted on the official LA Femme Website site and/or social media sites for promotion of your film; acceptance of screening allows the festival use of your trailer for said promotion. Applicants who are accepted into the festival will be informed approximately the first week in September of the festival year date. All others we regret that formal notification will not occur do to staff limitations. We are currently trying to resolve this issue of rejection notification. You will receive a notice via your

WAB account on or around the third week in September after notice has been given to those accepted to the festival which is sent out in the second week in September. You do not need to purchase a registration badge to submit a film for consideration or to have a film screen at LA Femme Film Festival. All filmmakers who are invited to show at the film festival will receive badges to attend the film festival. Also, those filmmakers who are not accepted into the festival will receive ONE pass to attend the festival as our way of giving back to filmmaker's efforts in creating art. We are the only festival in the world that empowers filmmakers by offering networking at the festival. We feel this opportunity should not be limited to just those accepted into competition. Any additional passes must be purchased separately. No refunds will be given to filmmakers who purchase a registration at a higher rate, or who decide not to attend.