



## **Women and Hollywood Hosts 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Awards Celebration in London November 27 at The May Fair Hotel**

**Trailblazer Honorees include Producers Alison Owen and Elizabeth Karlsen,  
Director Gurinder Chadha and Theatre Producer Zelda Perkins**

**New York, NY (November 16)**

**Women and Hollywood**, the initiative that educates, advocates and agitates for gender equality in Hollywood and the global film industry, will host the London celebration of its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary The May Fair Hotel on Monday, November 27, 2017.

Over the last decade, **Women and Hollywood** ([www.womenandhollywood.com](http://www.womenandhollywood.com)) has been the leading resource that sets the standard and defines the conversation on gender equality. Day in and day out, the site fuels coverage, amplifies women's voices and reinforces messages throughout the media. It is best known for its blog which takes a unique proactive style designed to engage filmgoers and filmmakers with news and information that highlights women filmmakers and agitates for increased opportunities for women.

As part of their 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations **Women and Hollywood** has recognized a number of trailblazing women who through their work, their voice, and/or or their activism have been a part of raising the level of the conversation on gender equality.

The London Trailblazers include:

- Alison Owen – Producer – *Harlots, Suffragette*
- Gurinder Chadha – Director - *Viceroy's House, Bend it Like Beckham*
- Elizabeth Karlsen – Producer – *Carol, Made in Dagenham*
- Zelda Perkins – Theatre Producer, Robert Fox Ltd
- Clare Stewart – BFI Head of Festivals, Festival Director BFI London Film Festival
- Corrina Antrobus and Simran Hans – Bechdel Test Fest

“Women and Hollywood has been highlighting the need for gender equality since before the conversation became mainstream. We are thrilled to be honoring these incredible women, from accomplished producers Alison Owen and Elizabeth Karlsen, to groundbreaking director Gurinder Chadha, to Clare Stewart the leader of the BFI London Film Festival as well as next generation activists Corrina Antrobus and Simran Hans,” said Melissa Silverstein, Founder of Women and Hollywood. “We will also pay a special tribute to Zelda

Perkins who was the first person to break her non-disclosure agreement with Harvey Weinstein following the explosive revelations about his decades of sexual harassment and assault.”

This prestigious group joins previous honorees in New York and Los Angeles where anniversary events were held in October.

New York Trailblazers included:

- Amma Asante, Director – *Belle, A United Kingdom*
- Julie Dash, Director – *Daughters of the Dust, Queen Sugar*
- Mynette Louie – President, GameChanger Films
- Sheila Nevins – President, HBO Documentary Films
- Julie Taymor, Director – *The Lion King (stage production), Frida*

LA Trailblazers included:

- Melissa Goodman and Lenora Lapidus - ACLU
- Patty Jenkins, Director – *Wonder Woman, Monster*
- Leah Meyerhoff – Founder, Film Fatales
- Haifaa al-Mansour, Director – *Wadjda, Mary Shelley*
- Angela Robinson, Director – *Professor Marston and the Wonder Women, D.E.B.S.*
- Stacy L. Smith, Founder and Director – The Media, Diversity & Social Change Initiative at USC Annenberg

The 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary co-chairs are Jessica Chastain, Barbara Dobkin, Ava DuVernay, Regina K. Scully and Lisa Garcia Quiroz.

Also as part of their anniversary celebrations **Women and Hollywood** conducted a short film contest for first-time female filmmakers trying to break into or progress in the entertainment business. There were over 1,000 entries. The London winner and runner up will both have their films shown on the evening:

### **London**

Winner

*Annie Waits* – directed by Marnie Paxton-Harris

Runner Up

*Present* – directed by Meg Campbell

The New York and Los Angeles winners were:

### **NY**

Winner

*ILE O Curta*- directed by Vanessa Coscia

Runner Up

*Q.U.E.E.N.* directed by Brittany Fennell

### **LA**

Winner

*O Florescer Da Voz* - directed by Jaime Leigh Gianopoulos

Runner Up

*Prudence* - directed by Angela Jude

The Founding Sponsor of **Women and Hollywood** is The Dobkin Family Foundation.

Additional 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary sponsors include:

- Agitator: Artemis Rising Foundation
- Advocate: Amazon Studios; Anonymous; Time Warner
- Educator: Loreen Arbus; Julie Parker Benello for Chicken and Egg Pictures; Caroline Hirsch, Carolines Entertainment
- Champion: Donna Deitch, Banky Larocque Foundation; The Walt Disney Studios
- Patron: ACLU of Southern California and ACLU Women's Rights Project; Lisa Brenner; Ava DuVernay; Jan Lisa Huttner; Amanda Lipitz; LUNAFEST Film Festival; Chris McConnell; New York Women in Film and Television; Nancy Schwartz Sternoff; Candy Straight

Tickets to the London event are available at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/women-and-hollywood-10th-anniversary-celebration-london-tickets-39043051819>

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## THE MAY FAIR HOTEL

### **About The May Fair Hotel, London**

The luxury [May Fair Hotel](#) is in the heart of London's most stylish district. The hotel, which was opened by King George V in 1927, boasts more than 400 luxury bedrooms, including 40 suites; set alongside the relaxing [May Fair Spa](#); the chic, Mediterranean tapas restaurant, [May Fair Kitchen](#); a 201-seat private screening room, [the May Fair Theatre](#) and the exclusive [Palm Beach Casino](#). The residence encapsulates its Mayfair locality throughout, with the intimate Terrace and Private Dining Room; [The May Fair Bar](#) offering an array of signature cocktails; the breath-taking Crystal Room; and the decadent Danziger Suite.

The May Fair Hotel is owned and managed by independent hospitality group Edwardian Hotels London, one of the UK's largest, privately-owned companies which has been developing luxury hotel and hospitality brands since 1977.

