

**PRESS RELEASE EMBARGOED 00:01 FRIDAY 10 JANUARY**

**Full programme announced for Femspectives - Glasgow Feminist Film Festival 2020**

**Scotland's only festival of films directed by womxn returns Thursday 20 to Sunday 23 February**

**Work from international talent from Burkina Faso to New Zealand will screen across four days at Civic House in Glasgow**

The full programme has been announced for the second annual Femspectives - Glasgow Feminist Film Festival. From Thursday 20 to Sunday 23 February, Scotland's only festival of films directed by womxn will celebrate diverse international talent alongside the best in local homegrown filmmaking.

Femspectives opens with the first Glasgow screening of *Vai*, a delicate and empowering ensemble piece from 9 Pacific directors and filmed in 7 different Pacific countries. *Vai* is a meditative exploration of disappearing traditions through a portrait of one woman's life, played by different indigenous actors throughout. The festival will then close with *Made in Scotland* - a night showcasing some of the best womxn voices in Scottish filmmaking, featuring shorts from Raisah Ahmad, Alison Piper and more.

The 2020 festival is based around three themes - It's Complicated (a deep-dive into the complex and nuanced experiences of the relationships womxn have with one another), Collective Memory: Trauma & Nation (stories that explore the power of memory) and Autonomy (films of different personal struggles, enquiring into what happens when the right to self-determination is reclaimed). Highlights from across the festival - which includes filmmakers from Burkina Faso, New Zealand, Costa Rica, Kenya and Germany - include:

- *Overseas* - an intimate and empathetic portrait of young Filipino women training to do domestic work abroad.
- *I Told My Mum I Was On An R.E Trip* - Lindy Hayman's exploration of issues around abortion, based on real-life interview recordings.
- *The Awakening Of The Ants* - the UK premiere of Spanish drama following Isa as she struggles to make space for her own desires and is caught between domestic pressures from her in-laws and her husband's longing for a third child.
- *Little Miss Westie* - a heartwarming documentary following Ren McCarthy as she becomes the first trans girl to compete in her town's Lil Miss Westie pageant, navigating puberty and gender norms in Trump's America.
- *Borders* - a feature from prolific black filmmaker Apolline Traoré follows tells the story of four womxn travelling from Dakar to Lagos. Together they form bonds through shared experiences and work together to assert their independence in a patriarchal society.

- *The Archivettes* - a fascinating origin story of the creation of The Lesbian Herstory Archives in New York in the 1970s by Deborah Edel and Joan Nestle. Over 40 years later the archive is the world's largest collection of materials by and about lesbians and still flourishing.
- *After Winter Comes Spring* - One year before the fall of the Berlin Wall, Helke Misselwitz travelled through the GDR to meet womxn of different ages and social classes. This rarely-screened gem from 1988 chronicles a state (of mind) that is now a thing of the past.

Co-founders and producers of Femspectives Lauren Clarke and Kathi Kamleitner said:

“We are very excited for Femspectives to return for its second edition in 2020. There is a tangible interest in supporting the work of womxn and engaging with feminist content, and we are very happy to be one of many organisations providing these opportunities to Glasgow audiences.

Building on the success of our first edition, Femspectives 2020 festival programme has doubled in the number of events and given us the opportunity to curate an even wider selection of films and events. This year's festival will be comprised of 13 films representing 11 countries, 2 open forum discussions, 1 workshop and a womxn networking brunch.”

Tickets to all events are on sale now, priced on an honesty scale of 'pay what you can afford' from free / £2 / £4 / £6. Find out more about the pricing scale and book online at [www.femspectives.com](http://www.femspectives.com)

Femspectives is funded by Screen Scotland and Film Hub Scotland.

### **Media Info**

For interviews, press tickets etc please contact Ruth Marsh on 07824468396 / [ruth.marshpr@gmail.com](mailto:ruth.marshpr@gmail.com)

### **About Femspectives**

Femspectives is a film series and festival in Glasgow. It provides a platform for feminist storytelling and safe spaces for conversations about feminisms, social issues, and politics. Co-founded and produced by Lauren Clarke and Kathi Kamleitner, the first Femspectives ran in 2019. Both Lauren and Kathi have been involved with feminist film curation in Glasgow and beyond for years. Femspectives is their first collaborative project and an expression of their shared interest in feminist cinema and politics. [www.femspectives.com](http://www.femspectives.com)

### **About Screen Scotland**

**Screen Scotland** is the dedicated partnership for screen in Scotland. With funding from Scottish Government and the National Lottery, Screen Scotland is driving the cultural, social and economic development of all aspects of the sector in Scotland, through enhanced funding, services and support. Screen Scotland sits within Creative Scotland and is a partnership with Scottish Enterprise, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Skills Development Scotland, Scottish Funding Council, working in close collaboration with the sector to ensure its success. [www.screen.scot](http://www.screen.scot) @screenscots