

ida documentary
awards 31

For Immediate Release

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International Documentary Association Announces Nominations and Creative Recognition Awards for the 31st Annual IDA Documentary Awards Gala on Saturday, December 5, 2015 at the Paramount Theatre in Los Angeles

Tig Notaro Set To Host the Prestigious Ceremony

LOS ANGELES, November 4, 2015 – The International Documentary Association (IDA) announced nominations, creative recognition awards and the host for the 2015 IDA Documentary Awards today. This 31st edition of the world's most esteemed awards for nonfiction filmmaking will be held on Saturday, December 5th in the Paramount Theatre at Paramount Studios in Los Angeles.

Grammy-nominated comedian Tig Notaro will host the 2015 IDA Documentary Awards ceremony. She is the subject of *Tig*, the Netflix Original documentary chronicling her life after it famously fell apart and stars in her first HBO stand-up special, *Boyish Girl Interrupted*. Notaro has teamed up with Diablo Cody, Nicole Holofcener and Louis CK on a semi-autobiographical pilot for Amazon, in addition to Harper Collins releasing her upcoming memoir in 2016. Tig will also be returning for season 2 of the critically acclaimed TV series *Transparent*.

The six films nominated in IDA's Feature category are: *AMY*, Asif Kapadia's moving film about six-time Grammy-winner Amy Winehouse; *THE BLACK PANTHERS: VANGUARD OF THE REVOLUTION*, Stanley Nelson's vibrant chronicle of the birth of the Black Panther Party and its significance to broader American culture; *LISTEN TO ME MARLON*, Stevan Riley's fascinating self-portrait of Marlon Brando culled from his vast archive of personal audio and visual materials; *THE LOOK OF SILENCE*, Joshua Oppenheimer's powerful companion piece to the Oscar®-nominated *The Act of Killing*, which follows a family of survivors of the Indonesian genocide who discover how their son was murdered and the identities of the killers; *THE RUSSIAN WOODPECKER*, Chad Gracia's riveting examination of eccentric Ukrainian artist Fedor Alexandrovich's obsession with Duga – a massive, Soviet-constructed radio antenna near the Chernobyl site that remains shrouded in mystery; and *WHAT HAPPENED, MISS SIMONE?*, Liz Garbus's sensitive exploration of the legendary singer and activist Nina Simone.

IDA documentary awards 31

The five nominated films in the Short category are BODY TEAM 12, David Darg's film chronicling workers collecting the dead from the streets of the Ebola zone; CLAUDE LANZMANN: SPECTRES OF THE SHOAH, Adam Benzine's look at the making of Lanzmann's masterful documentary *Shoah*; Kitty Green's THE FACE OF UKRAINE: CASTING OKSANA BAIUL, the story of little girls from all over a war-torn Ukraine auditioning to play the role of gold medal-winning figure skater Oksana Baiul; Paulina Skibińska's OBJECT, the creative image of an underwater search in the dimensions of two worlds – ice desert and underwater; and LAST DAY OF FREEDOM, Dee Hibbert-Jones and Nomi Talisman's animated account of Bill Babbitt's decision to support and help his brother in the face of war, crime and capital execution.

Winners in the Best Feature and Best Short categories are voted on by IDA's international membership. Outside screening committees of industry professionals around the world including: New York City, Toronto, Sheffield, Washington, DC, Chicago, the San Francisco Bay Area and Los Angeles determine the winners in the other award categories.

“Some of the documentary industry's brightest and best talent released films alongside notable premieres from fledgling filmmakers making it one of the most exciting and difficult years for our nominating committees. The quality of the films vying for recognition left the IDA with an unprecedented six feature nominees,” said Marjan Safinia, IDA's Board President. “The organization is also excited to announce that comedian Tig Notaro will host our awards ceremony. She continues to push the boundaries and evolve as an artist in a way that is very comparable to the filmmaking talent we are honoring that night.”

Matthew Heineman will receive the IDA's Courage Under Fire Award, in recognition of conspicuous bravery in the pursuit of truth. This award is presented to documentary filmmakers by their peers for putting freedom of speech – represented in the crafts of documentary filmmaking and journalism – above all else, even their own personal safety. Heineman's gripping film, CARTEL LAND, documents two modern-day vigilante movements – Dr. Joe Mireles's citizen-led uprising against a violent drug cartel wreaking havoc in Mexico and the Arizona Border Recon led by Tim “Nailer” Foley, which is working to prevent Mexico's drug wars from crossing into the United States. Previously, Heineman directed and produced the Emmy-nominated *Escape Fire: The Fight to Rescue American Healthcare* and worked for two years with a team at HBO on the groundbreaking, Emmy-nominated series *The Alzheimer's Project*. Previous recipients of the award include: Laura Poitras, Christiane Amanpour, Andrew Berends, Jonathan Stack and James Brabazon and Saira Shah.

The Pare Lorentz Award is given at the IDA Documentary Awards to recognize films that demonstrate exemplary filmmaking while focusing on environmental and social issues. This year's Pare Lorentz Award recognizes the film HOW TO CHANGE THE WORLD, directed by Jerry Rothwell, the story of the pioneers who founded Greenpeace and defined the modern green movement.

The IDA Creative Recognition Awards honor excellence in cinematography, composing, editing and writing in documentary feature films. The recipients of these awards represent the highest achievements in their respective crafts, and highlight the importance of their work in compelling

ida documentary awards 31

documentary storytelling. At the IDA Documentary Awards ceremony, **THE RUSSIAN WOODPECKER** (cinematography by Artem Ryzhykov) will be recognized with the award for Best Cinematography; **KURT COBAIN: MONTAGE OF HECK** (edited by Joe Beshenkovsky and Brett Morgen) will receive the Best Editing award; **BEST OF ENEMIES** (original score by Jonathan Kirkscey) will be presented with the Best Music award, and **LISTEN TO ME MARLON** (written by Stevan Riley, co-writer Peter Ettedgui) will receive the Best Writing award.

Nominees for the ABC News VideoSource Award, which recognizes compelling use of news footage in documentary filmmaking, include: **(T)ERROR** (Lyric R. Cabral and David Felix Sutcliffe, directors), **BEST OF ENEMIES** (Robert Gordon and Morgan Neville, directors), **DON'T THINK I'VE FORGOTTEN: CAMBODIA'S LOST ROCK AND ROLL** (John Pirozzi, director), **NIGHT WILL FALL** (André Singer, director) and **WHAT HAPPENED, MISS SIMONE** (Liz Garbus, director).

Five series are nominated for the Curated Series Award: **30 FOR 30** (ESPN), **INDEPENDENT LENS** (ITVS/PBS), **POV** (POV, PBS), **STORYVILLE** (BBC) and **AMERICA REFRAMED** (WORLD Channel). Limited Series nominees are: **BLOOD BROTHERS** (Vara Television (The Netherlands)), **HARD EARNED** (Al Jazeera, Kartemquin Films), **THE JINX: THE LIFE AND DEATHS OF ROBERT DURST** (HBO), **LIFE STORY** (Discovery) and **REBEL ARCHITECTURE** (Al Jazeera English). The nominees for the Episodic Series Award are: **CHEF'S TABLE** (Netflix), **MORGAN SPURLOCK INSIDE MAN** (CNN, Warrior Poets), **NOVA** (PBS), **THE SEVENTIES** (CNN, Playtone, Herzog & Company) and **THIS IS LIFE WITH LISA LING** (CNN, part2 pictures).

The series nominated for the Short Form Series Award include: **DO NOT TRACK** (National Film Board of Canada, Upian, Arte, BR), **HIGHRISE: UNIVERSE WITHIN** (National Film Board of Canada), **THE NEW YORK TIMES OP-DOCS** (The New York Times), **POV INTERACTIVE DOCUMENTARIES** (POV, PBS) and **WE THE ECONOMY: 20 SHORT FILMS YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS** (Vulcan Productions, Cinelan).

Five student films are nominated for the David L. Wolper Student Documentary Award: **THE ARCHIPELAGO** (Benjamin Huguet, director), **THE BLUE WALL** (Michael Milano, director), **EL CACAO** (Michelle Aguilar, director), **IN ATTLA'S TRACKS** (Catharine Axley, director) and **LOOKING AT STARS**, (Alexandre Peralta, director).

In addition to recognizing the year's best in documentary filmmaking and nonfiction programming, the 2015 IDA Documentary Awards will honor Gordon Quinn with its Career Achievement Award. Tony Tabatznik and the Bertha Foundation (www.berthafoundation.org) will receive the IDA Amicus Award, and Netflix's Ted Sarandos will receive IDA's Pioneer Award. **(T)ERROR** directors Lyric R. Cabral and David Felix Sutcliffe will share the Emerging Documentary Filmmaker Award sponsored by the Archibald Family Foundation.

ida documentary awards 31

“We are thrilled to be honoring Gordon Quinn, Tony Tabatznik and Ted Sarandos – each of whom have had an enormous impact on nonfiction programming around the world. Likewise, to be recognizing the brave and bold work of filmmakers like Lyric Cabral, David Felix Sutcliffe and Matthew Heineman illustrates that documentary film has an exciting and vibrant future ahead,” said Simon Kilmurry, Executive Director of the IDA.

The 31st Annual IDA Documentary Awards will take place on Saturday, December 5th at the Paramount Theatre in Los Angeles, CA. Tickets are on-sale now online at documentary.org/awards. Tickets are priced at \$500. IDA members will receive a 10% discount (\$450).

Further information about tickets, sponsorship opportunities and membership can be found at documentary.org.

About the IDA Documentary Awards

For over thirty years, IDA has produced the annual IDA Documentary Awards, the world’s most prestigious award event solely dedicated to documentary film. In addition to honoring both individuals and organizations for outstanding achievements in documentary filmmaking and contributions to the field, the IDA Documentary Awards also recognize the best documentary films and nonfiction series of the year.

About the International Documentary Association

Founded in 1982, the International Documentary Association (IDA) is a nonprofit organization that champions documentary films and filmmakers and the impact they have on the world. The IDA provides grants to support film production; education through panel discussions, master classes, conferences, and other forums; fights for filmmaker rights through advocacy; and fosters a growing and enthusiastic documentary audience. Follow us at:

documentary.org | twitter.com/IDAorg | facebook.com/documentary.org

ida documentary
awards 31

FULL LIST OF 2015 IDA DOCUMENTARY AWARDS HONOREES & NOMINEES:

Career Achievement Award

Gordon Quinn

Pioneer Award

Ted Sarandos

Amicus Award

Tony Tabatznik and the Bertha Foundation

Emerging Documentary Filmmaker Award sponsored by the Archibald Family Foundation

Lyric R. Cabral and David Felix Sutcliffe

Courage Under Fire Award

Matthew Heineman

Best Feature Award

Amy

Director: Asif Kapadia

Producer: James Gay-Rees

A24

The Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution

Director: Stanley Nelson

Producer: Laurens Grant

PBS Distribution

Listen to Me Marlon

Director: Stevan Riley

Producer: John Battsek

Showtime Documentary Films

The Look of Silence

Director: Joshua Oppenheimer

Producer: Signe Byrge Sørensen

Drafthouse Films and Participant Media

The Russian Woodpecker

Director: Chad Gracia

Producer: Mike Lerner

FilmBuff

What Happened, Miss Simone?

「ida documentary」
awards 31
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Director: Liz Garbus
Netflix

Best Short Award

Body Team 12
Director: David Darg
Producer: Bryn Mooser
RYOT Films and Vulcan Productions

Claude Lanzmann: Spectres of the Shoah
Director: Adam Benzine
HBO

The Face of Ukraine: Casting Oksana Baiul
Director: Kitty Green
Producer: Philippa Campey
KurzFilmAgentur Hamburg (Germany)

Last Day of Freedom
Directors: Dee Hibbert-Jones and Nomi Talisman

Object
Director: Paulina Skibińska
Munk Studio and Polish Filmmakers Association

Pare Lorentz Award

How to Change the World
Director: Jerry Rothwell

Creative Recognition Award Winners

Best Cinematography
The Russian Woodpecker
Cinematography by: Artem Ryzhykov

Best Editing
Kurt Cobain: Montage of Heck
Edited by: Joe Beshenkovsky and Brett Morgen

Best Writing

ida documentary
awards 31

Listen to Me Marlon
Written by: Stevan Riley
Co-Writer: Peter Ettedgui

Best Music
Best of Enemies
Original Score by: Jonathan Kirkscey

ABC News VideoSource Award

(T)ERROR
Directors: Lyric R. Cabral and David Felix Sutcliffe
PBS, BBC

Best of Enemies
Directors: Robert Gordon and Morgan Neville
Magnolia Pictures

Don't Think I've Forgotten: Cambodia's Lost Rock and Roll
Director: John Pirozzi
Argot Pictures

Night Will Fall
Director: André Singer
HBO

What Happened, Miss Simone?
Director: Liz Garbus
Netflix

Best Curated Series Award

30 for 30
Executive Producers John Dahl and Connor Schell
ESPN

America ReFramed
Executive Producers: Chris Hastings and Simon Kilmurry
WORLD Channel

Independent Lens
Executive Producers: Sally Jo Fifer and Lois Vossen
ITVS, PBS

POV

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awards 31

Executive Producers: Simon Kilmurry and Chris White
POV, PBS

Storyville
Series Editor: Nick Fraser
Executive Producer: Kate Townsend
BBC TV, BBC World News

Best Limited Series Award

Blood Brothers
Executive Producers: Kees Schaap and Anja van Oostrom
Vara Television (The Netherlands)

Hard Earned
Executive Producers: Steve James, Justine Nagan, and Gordon Quinn
Al Jazeera and Kartemquin Films

The Jinx: The Life and Deaths of Robert Durst
Executive Producer: Jason Blum
Co-Executive Producer: Zac Stuart-Pontier
Produced by: Andrew Jarecki and Marc Smerling
HBO

Life Story
Executive Producer: Mike Gunton
Discovery

Rebel Architecture
Executive Producer: Fiona Lawson-Baker
Al Jazeera English

Best Episodic Series Award

Chef's Table
Executive Producers: David Gelb and Andrew Fried
Netflix

Morgan Spurlock Inside Man
Executive Producers: Jeremy Chilnick, Matthew Galkin, and Morgan Spurlock
CNN and Warrior Poets

NOVA

ida documentary
awards 31

Senior Executive Producer: Paula Apsell
Deputy Executive Producer: Julia Cort
PBS

The Seventies
Executive Producers: Gary Goetzman, Tom Hanks, and Mark Herzog
CNN, Playtone, and Herzog & Company

This is Life with Lisa Ling
Executive Producers: Amy Bucher, Lisa Ling, and David Shadrack Smith
CNN and part2 pictures

Best Short Form Series Award

Do Not Track
Executive Producer: Hugues Sweeney
National Film Board of Canada, Upian, Arte, and BR

Highrise: Universe Within
Executive Producers: Anita Lee and Silva Basmajian
National Film Board of Canada

The New York Times Op-Docs
Executive Producer: Jason Spingarn-Koff
The New York Times

POV Interactive Documentaries
Executive Producers: Simon Kilmurry and Adnaan Wasey
POV and PBS

WE THE ECONOMY: 20 Short Films You Can't Afford to Miss
Executive Producers: Paul G. Allen and Morgan Spurlock
Vulcan Productions and Cinelan

David L. Wolper Student Documentary Award

The Archipelago
Director: Benjamin Huguet
The National Film and Television School

The Blue Wall
Director: Michael Milano
University of California, Berkeley

El Cacao

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awards 31
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Director: Michelle Aguilar
University of California Santa Cruz

In Attla's Tracks
Director: Catharine Axley
Stanford University

Looking at the Stars
Director: Alexandre Peralta
University of Southern California