



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 22, 2022

Images from Through Her Lens: The Tribeca CHANEL Women's Filmmaker Program Cocktail Celebration [HERE](#), CURTESY OF TRIBECA

TRIBECA AND CHANEL ANNOUNCE RECIPIENT OF 2022 PRODUCTION FUNDS FROM EIGHTH ANNUAL THROUGH HER LENS: THE TRIBECA CHANEL WOMEN'S FILMMAKER PROGRAM

*JURORS THUSO MBEDU, ALEXANDRA SHIPP, JENNIFER MORRISON, BONNIE HAMMER, RIVA MARKER
AWARD WENDI TANG AND HONGWEI WU WITH GRAND PRIZE FOR FISHTANK*

NEW YORK, NY — Tribeca and CHANEL today announced the winning recipient of the eighth annual THROUGH HER LENS: The Tribeca Chanel Women's Filmmaker Program. Wendi Tang and Hongwei Wu were awarded this year's grand prize for their film *FISHTANK* and received full production funding for their original short film. *FISHTANK* is about a sardonic 28-year-old Jules has been sober for a year, but she can't stop vomiting fish. Striving to put her life back on track, she must preserve control when a fish enthusiast unexpectedly enters her life.

This year's mentorship program welcomed finalists and jurors for an in-person celebration and gathered esteemed industry leaders from around the globe for a program of workshops, classes, and peer-to-peer sessions for the filmmakers.

"Thank you so much for believing in us, and thank you so much to the Tribeca Chanel Through Her Lens Program. Going into this week, we wanted to try hard, do our best, have fun, and learn everything we possibly could. Regardless of the result, we were going to keep moving" said Wendi Tang and Hongwei Wu after receiving the award. "Our writing mentors gave thorough notes from the beginning and helped

us see the blindspots in our script. We can't imagine what our script would look like without the last three days of mentorship. It has evolved so much since the pitch process."

A total of \$100,000 in filmmaker grants was awarded amongst the five projects. In addition to the winning project, the other program participants each received a development grant to support continued work on their respective films to move them closer to production. They included *BITTERROOT*; *HOMECOMING AND GOING*; *THE LAST RAIN CLOUD OF SUMMER*; *THE QUEEN, THE KNIGHT, AND THE WITCH*.

Following an intensive, three-day workshop, the selected filmmakers pitched their projects to a jury comprised of: actor and director Jennifer Morrison ("Once Upon a Time" and "This is Us"); producer Bonnie Hammer ("It Just Takes One" and "Erase the Hate"); actor Alexandra Shipp (*tick, tick... BOOM!* and "Love, Simon"); producer Riva Marker (*Whiplash* and *Drive*); actor Thuso Mbedu (*The Woman King* and "The Underground Railroad").

"This is an incredibly excellent group of talent, and we believe all of these projects can and will be made," said the jury. "FISHTANK captivated our imaginations with its unique symbolism and universal story."

Also supporting the filmmakers was a distinguished leadership committee that was comprised of Master Class Advisors, Mentors, and Writing Mentors:

MENTORS: actor Annette Bening (*American Beauty* and *20th Century Women*); writer and showrunner Annie Weisman ("Physical" and "Desperate Housewives"); producer Effie Brown ("Dear White People" and *But I'm a Cheerleader*); producer Haifaa Al-Mansour (*Wadjda* and *Mary Shelley*); producer Maria Zuckerman (*Nanny* and *The Mauritanian*)

WRITING MENTORS: writer Becky Johnston (*House of Gucci* and *The Prince of Tides*); producer Kelly Carmichael (*The Eyes of Tammy Faye* and *My Week with Marilyn*); writer and showrunner Angela Kang ("The Walking Dead" and "Terriers"); writer and showrunner Deepa Mehta (*Funny Boy* and "Leila"); writer Jennifer Kaytin Robinson (*Thor: Love and Thunder* and *Someone Great*)

MASTER CLASS ADVISORS: director Karyn Kusama (*Jennifer's Body* and "Yellowjackets"); writer, director, and producer Patty Jenkins (*Wonder Woman* and *Monster*); writer and producer Courtney Kemp ("Power" and "The Good Wife"); composer Laura Karpman ("Ms. Marvel" and "Lovecraft Country"); casting director Carmen Cuba ("Stranger Things" and *The Martian*)

###

About the Tribeca Festival

The Tribeca Festival brings artists and diverse audiences together to celebrate storytelling in all its forms, including film, TV, VR, games, music, and online work. With strong roots in independent film, Tribeca is a

platform for creative expression and immersive entertainment. Tribeca champions emerging and established voices; discovers award-winning filmmakers and creators; curates innovative experiences; and introduces new technology and ideas through premieres, exhibitions, talks, and live performances.

The Festival was founded by Robert De Niro, Jane Rosenthal, and Craig Hatkoff in 2001 to spur the economic and cultural revitalization of lower Manhattan following the attacks on the World Trade Center. Tribeca will celebrate its 22nd year from June 7–18, 2023.

In 2019, James Murdoch’s Lupa Systems, a private investment company with locations in New York and Mumbai, bought a majority stake in Tribeca Enterprises, bringing together Rosenthal, De Niro, and Murdoch to grow the enterprise.

About CHANEL

CHANEL is a private company and a world leader in creating, developing, manufacturing and distributing luxury products. Founded by Gabrielle Chanel at the beginning of the last century, CHANEL offers a broad range of high-end creations, including Ready-to-Wear, Leather Goods, Fashion Accessories, Eyewear, Fragrances, Makeup, Skincare, Jewelry and Watches. CHANEL is also renowned for its Haute Couture collections, presented twice yearly in Paris, and for having acquired a large number of specialized suppliers, collectively known as the Métiers d’art. CHANEL is dedicated to ultimate luxury and to the highest level of craftsmanship. It is a brand whose core values remain historically grounded on exceptional creation. As such, CHANEL promotes culture, art, creativity and “savoir-faire” throughout the world, and invests significantly in people, R&D and innovation. At the end of 2021, CHANEL employed more than 28,500 people across the world.

Press Contacts

Corey Wilson, Tribeca | cwilson@tribecafilm.com

Annie Augustine Davis, Tribeca | adavis@tribecafilm.com

Yunjung Seo, Tribeca | yseo@tribecafilm.com

Annie Buck, CHANEL | annie.buck@chanelusa.com