



**London Feminist Film Festival 2012 Press Release**  
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**Press contact: [press@londonfeministfilmfestival.com](mailto:press@londonfeministfilmfestival.com)**

**BRAND NEW FILM FESTIVAL FOR LONDON!**  
**TWO WEEKS TO SUBMISSION DEADLINE**  
**BIDISHA ANNOUNCED AS FIRST MATRON**

We are pleased to announce the very first London Feminist Film Festival, which will take place at Hackney Picturehouse over the long weekend of 29 November to 2 December 2012. We will be screening feminist shorts and feature films from women directors around the world, including films by up-and-coming directors as well as feminist classics. Each film session will be accompanied by a panel discussion featuring prominent filmmakers, feminists, academics, and arts critics.

The London Feminist Film Festival was set up as a response to the underrepresentation of women in the film industry, as well as to the lack of films addressing feminist issues and the fact that the representation of women on screen is often narrow and stereotypical. As Festival Director Anna Read says “We want to celebrate women creatives whilst ensuring that this feminist ethos also extends to the films we show. The festival will be a celebration of feminist films past and present. Our aim is to inspire discussion about feminism and film, to support women directors, and to get feminist films seen by a wider audience”.

Since we put out our call for submissions in May we have had a great response from filmmakers across the globe. The submission deadline is just two weeks away (31 August) so filmmakers should submit their films ASAP. The criteria for submission are as follows and can also be found at <http://londonfeministfilmfestival.com/submissions/>

- Women directors from any country may enter.
- Films should deal with feminist issues and/or be feminist in their representation of women.
- Films can be of any length or genre, and from any year.
- Non-English language films must be presented in English-subtitled versions.

The festival's first matron is the writer, critic, and broadcaster Bidisha, who says “In a year when the Cannes film festival had no women in its official selection, when less than 10% of industry directors, writers, cinematographers, and leading characters are women, the London Feminist Film Festival is here to challenge, change, inspire, redress, entertain, and satisfy. I support it wholeheartedly as a women's advocate and also as someone who has always loved film and sat in countless screenings watching the action and the credits and thinking, where the hell are the women? Well, here they are”.

To keep updated about the London Feminist Film Festival, visit our website (<http://londonfeministfilmfestival.com>) follow us on Twitter (@ldnfemfilmfest), join us on Facebook (London Feminist Film Festival), or sign up to our mailing list by emailing us at [newsletter@londonfeministfilmfestival.com](mailto:newsletter@londonfeministfilmfestival.com).