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press release 01

FrauenFilmTage 2019 from 28 February to 7 March 2019 in the Stadtkino at the Künstlerhaus (opening in the Filmcasino)



© Mayfair Pictures

The FrauenFilmTage 2019 will **open** with the Vietnamese film **THE THIRD WIFE** by **Ash Mayfair**. In combination with spherical sounds (music: An Ton That), the stunning footage of the countryside (camerawork: Chananun Chotrungroj) is pure poetry.

In 19th century rural Vietnam, 14-year-old May (Nguyen Phuong Tra My) is married as the third wife to the wealthy landowner Hung (Long Le Vu). Her status within the family appears assured through her becoming pregnant, but she soon realises that her possibilities are extremely restricted within the existing patriarchal structures.

The script is inspired by the **actual family history of director Ash Mayfair**. Her great-grandmother and grandmother were forced into arranged marriages early on in their lives. In an interview, Ash says that she wanted to erect a cinematic memorial to the women in her family. At the same time, she finds it important to question the role which women are forced to play in society. The fact that forced marriage is still practiced today is another source of motivation for the director to devote herself to this subject.

Since its world premiere, **THE THIRD WIFE** has received numerous awards, such as the “NETPAC Award” Toronto IFF 2018, “TVE Otra Mirada Award” San Sebastian International Film Festival 2018, “Gold Hugo” Chicago International Film Festival 2018, “Best Artistic Contribution” Cairo International Film Festival 2018.



© Zoe Opratko

The 2019 **retrospective** of the FrauenFilmTage is dedicated to **Kimber Lee Jerrett** and the subject of **light**. As a senior gaffer, she has worked in the Austrian and international film scene as well as in advertising since 2003. Kimber Lee Jerrett drew attention to herself through her lighting design in Michael Haneke's award-winning film **THE WHITE RIBBON – A German Children's Story** together with cinematographer Christian Berger. Current examples of her approach to lighting design are evident in *L'ANIMALE* by Katharina Mückstein, *HER MIT DER MARIE!* by Barbara Eder, which was an episode in the German "Tatort" TV series, as well as the urban comedy *GESCHENKT* by Daniel Prohaska for television.

Kimber Lee Jerrett on the passion she feels for her profession:

„... Every stage of the process is thrilling for me. It's exciting for me to see if a lighting concept we came up with works out. Whether it's a matter of faces, landscapes or spaces, I love the freedom I have to bring my lighting ideas to bear. Making a movie is all about teamwork in every way. ...“



© Alpha Violet

The **mexican film** **THE CHAMBERMAID** (*La Camarista*) by **Lila Avilés** features in the programme of the FrauenFilmTage 2019.

In her film, the director focuses her attention on the employees at a luxury hotel in Mexico City, on their everyday work, tiny wishes and dreams. At the heart of the film is Eve (Gabriela Cartol), who does her utmost to keep the guest rooms of the clean and attractive. Her greatest wishes are a red dress which was forgotten by a customer, and her professional advancement, in particular the opportunity to manage the hotel suite. To create an authentic plot, Lila Avilés spent a long time researching in one of Mexico's most luxurious hotels, the "Presidente", and cast some of its staff in supporting roles. After the world premiere in Toronto in 2018, this film recently received the jury prize of the Marrakech International Film Festival.



© Niels Ackermann

Also included in the programme is the **Swiss film** **WITH THE WIND** (*Le vent tourne*) by **Bettina Oberli**.

Pauline (Mélanie Thierry) and Alex (Pierre Deladonchamps) live on a farm in the Swiss mountains and produce their own food. Everything seems to have a fixed rhythm until the summer, when they set up a wind turbine to generate their own electricity. Through her encounter with engineer Samuel (Nuno Lopes), Pauline is confronted not only with a different life world, but also with questions arising from her own needs and desires. In *WITH THE WIND*, Oberli not only examines current issues: How can man live in harmony with nature and where is capitalism leading us, but also the wishes and needs of the individual. (World premiere Locarno 2018 Film Festival).



© filmgarten

As an **austrian production** the FrauenFilmTage 2019 is delighted about the inclusion of **SIE IST DER ANDERE BLICK** by **Christiana Perschon**, whose film premiered at the Viennale in 2018.

Christiana Perschon portrays five key representatives of the **Austrian feminist avant-garde**: Renate Bertlmann, who will be designing the Austrian pavilion of the Biennale in 2019, Linda Christanell, Lore Heuermann, Karin Mack and Margot Pilz. In a setting cleverly chosen by the director, the artists tell of their artistic beginnings and the normality of sexism of the 1960s and 1970s.



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The FrauenFilmTage 2019 looks forward to **cooperating** with the **FRAUFELD network** to promote the visibility of female musicians. The musicians Susanna Gartmayer (contra-alto clarinet) and Verena Zeiner (keyboard instruments) will provide a musical accompaniment to Edmund Edel's silent film **DIE BÖRSENKÖNIGIN** (1918) with Asta Nielsen in the leading role.

As the successful owner of a copper mine, **Asta Nielsen** perfectly masters the stock exchange and its stockbrokers. Thanks to her manager, who has discovered a new vein of copper ore, and thanks to her skills, she can look forward to an untroubled future. In her mind's eye, the queen of the stock market imagines how the company is set to grow through a combination of these two factors. Only in matters of love do things refuse to work out.

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The **complete programme** of the Vienna Women's Film Festival 2019 and further infos will be online by end of January on our webpage www.frauenfilmtage.at/en.

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