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**Fusion Film Festival Names Acclaimed Cinematographer   
Reed Morano 2015 “Woman of the Year”**

The Fusion Film Festival, NYU Tisch School of the Arts’ premiere student film festival showcasing the work of emerging female filmmakers throughout NYU, will name distinguished cinematographer Reed Morano as the Fusion “Woman of the Year” for 2015. The award presentation will be part of the Festival’s three days of screenings and panels celebrating women creators in film, TV, and New Media beginning Thursday, February 26 and running through Saturday, February 28. All events are free and open to the public.  
  
The award ceremony will take place at the Cantor Film Center, 36 East 8th Street, New York on Saturday February 28 at 6:30 p.m, preceded by a retrospective of Morano’s work on the festival’s opening night. She will also conduct a Master Class as part of the Festival earlier in the day on Saturday. Other winners of the “Woman of the Year” award have included Oscar-winning screenwriter Lucy Alibar and Dr. Mary Schmidt Campbell, Dean Emerita of NYU Tisch.   
  
“Reed Morano’s career is both an incredible inspiration and a clear rebuke to anyone who believes women cannot achieve stunning success behind the camera,” said co-director Lucy Ross. “With over 40 credits under her belt at age 37, and her directorial debut *Meadowland in* upcoming release this year, Reed has maintained extraordinary quality, while achieving both commercial and artistic success as she maintains a full family life here in New York. I can’t think of anybody else who is a better fit for Fusion’s Woman of the Year.”   
  
The youngest member of the American Society of Cinematographers (ASC) and one of only 13 women in the 339-member organization, Morano has earned cinematography credits for 41 films and television programs, including *Frozen River*, starring Melissa Leo and directed by Courtney Hunt, which was nominated for two Academy Awards; *Skeleton Twins* (2014), starring Bill Hader and Kristen Wiig; and most recently *Meadowland*, starring Olivia Wilde and Giovanni Ribisi, which she also directed and is currently in post-production for. She won the 2011 Kodak Vision Award for Cinematography at the Women in Film Crystal + Lucy awards, and in past years has been named one of Variety's "10 Cinematographers to Watch", one of ioncinema.com's "American New Wave 25", and one of five innovative cinematographers in ICG magazine's "Generation Next" spotlight.  
  
In addition to film screenings throughout the three day festival, Fusion will also offer a variety of special events, including a showrunners panel featuring Amy Sherman-Palladino and Janet Tamaro; special panels on web series and women in horror cinema; screenings of award-winning features and shorts; and the presentation of the Canon Best Cinematographer & Best of Fest awards and the Movado's Emerging Artist Award.

“Now in its thirteenth year, NYU’s Fusion Film Festival has a growing reputation in the entertainment industry as a must-see showcase for up-and-coming filmmakers and cinematographers,” said Fusion co-director Natalie Erazo.”

“Iconic women from all areas of the entertainment industry bring their wisdom and energy to Fusion in a spirit that is unique to women supporting women,” said NYU Professor and Fusion’s Faculty Advisor Susan Sandler.  
  
Below is a full list of programming and events. All events free and open to the public on a first come, first served basis. This year’s festival is sponsored by Canon Cameras, Adobe, Avid, Final Draft, Movado, and Essentia Water. For Fusion Festival 2015 updates, please visit **www.fusionfilmfestival.com**.  
  
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**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH**

***Showcase Tribute to Reed Morano, Fusion's Woman of the Year***

***Opening Night, 7 p.m. - 10 p.m., Cantor Film Center***In this opening night event, the Fusion offers a showcase dedicated to the career of Reed Morano, featuring a special introduction from the Woman of the Year herself, a screening of the celebrated feature *Kill Your Darlings*, and excerpts from *Skeleton Twins*, *As it Goes*, and a teaser for the up-coming *Meadowland*.

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27th**  
  
***Docs-in-the-Works Pitch Competition, 3 – 6 p.m., Tisch Theatre 006***

An exclusive look at the lucky finalists who will screen their documentary trailers, pitch their work in progress, and get live feedback from top execs from HBO, VICE, History Channel, Impact Partners, POV, Independent Film Project, and Chicken & Egg Pictures -- with award-winning documentary filmmaker and NYU Professor Nilita Vachani hosting.

***Women in Horror, 7 - 8:30 p.m., Tisch Theatre 006***   
Meet the front line of great directors working today in the horror genre, a male-dominated industry. Featuring, Mary Harron (American Psycho), Katie Carman-Lehach (Switch), and Jenn Wexler (Slumber Party) with NYU Professor and critically-acclaimed director Mary Lambert (*Pet Semetary*) moderating.  
  
**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH**  
  
***Brunch with an Icon: HBO's Doris Casap, 10 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.***

**~By online application only** ~  
An intimate brunch discussion with Doris Casap, Senior Vice President of Film Programming for HBO, manager for all of the network’s film programming, acquisitions and studio deals including independent acquisition for HBO and Cinemaz. Forty students will apply for a seat at the table with the woman who makes HBO and Cinemax the hottest destination for film distribution on television.

***Women on the Web, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Tisch Theatre 006***Go behind the scenes with established web-series creators, actors, and producers who have successfully tackled the internet game with their innovative storytelling and compelling characters. Featuring, Jen Danielson (Head of Lorne Michael’s *Above Average*), Natalia Leite (*Be Here Nowish*), Alexandra Roxo (*Be Here Nowish*), Quincy Morris (*In Between Men*), and Emily Davis (*Monday Brunch*) with NYU Professor and producer, Christina Dehaven moderating.  
  
***Master Class with Woman of the Year Reed Morano 1 - 2:15 p.m., Tisch Theatre 006***An all-access affair with critically-acclaimed cinematographer and director Reed Morano, the youngest member to ever be admitted to the prestigious ASC and one of the most creative people behind the camera. Join Reed as she discusses her technique and screens her work .

***SHOWRUNNER SUPERSTARS 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. Tisch Theatre 006***

***A conversation with Gilmore Girls’ creator Amy Sherman-Palladino and Rizzoli & Isles’ Janet Tamaro 2:30PM - 3:30PM, Tisch Theatre 006***

An insider’s conversation with the legendary women who have created highly successful, enduring television shows.

***Film Fatales: Notes from the Field, 4 – 5 p.m., Room 006***The dynamic NYC-based female filmmaker collective Film Fatales share personal experiences and advice as they support each other in their challenging career journeys. Enid Zentelis (*Bottled Up*), Iyabo Boyd (Producer, *Sunbelt Express*), Jennifer Fox (*Beirut*), Kim Spurlock (*Down in Number 5*), and Sasha Gordon (Composer, *God of Love*) with Leah Meyerhoff (*I Believe in Unicorns*) as moderator.   
  
***Award Ceremony and Screenings, 7 – 10 p.m., Cantor Film Center***  
The Fusion Competition Screenings showcases the next generation of storytelling greats in an evening of stunning work by finalists in short film, animation, and web series.

The Competition Award ceremony and Woman of the Year presentation by Dean Allyson Green to Reed Morano. Showcase to be followed by a networking reception for filmmakers with the industry leaders who have served as judges and festival mentors.

*About* ***Fusion Film Festival***

*The Fusion Film Festival is NYU Tisch’s premiere festival dedicated to celebrating the work of women in film, television and new media, from student to icon. In the 13 years since its launch, the student-run festival has ben proud to attract accomplished artists such as Julie Taymor, Linda Obst, Miranda July, Lena Dunham, Penny Marshall, Amy Heckerling, Barbara Kopple, Lauren Zalaznick, and Jane Campion. Beyond the multi-day annual showcase of work, Fusion also serves as a vital artistic community that explores ways to break down barriers that separate men and women in film and television, while creating valuable opportunities for collaboration, cross-promotion* and mentorship. For more information, visit [www.FusionFilmFestival.com](http://www.fusionfilmfestival.com/).

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