



SAN FRANCISCO JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL 38

july 19 – august 5
sfjff.org

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THE 38TH SAN FRANCISCO JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL TO PRESENT ACADEMY AWARD® NOMINATED DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKER LIZ GARBUS WITH FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AWARD

SAN FRANCISCO, June 12, 2018 - The Jewish Film Institute (JFI) is pleased to announce that Academy Award® nominated documentary filmmaker Liz Garbus will be the recipient of the 2018 Freedom of Expression Award. Garbus will be presented the award during the 38th San Francisco Jewish Film Festival, which returns to the Bay Area July 19th to August 5th.

Since 2005, the San Francisco Jewish Film Festival has presented the Freedom of Expression Award annually to honor the unfettered imagination, which is the cornerstone of a free, just and open society. In these tumultuous political times, the Festival could not find a more timely recipient of the 2018 Freedom of Expression Award than Academy Award® Nominated documentary filmmaker Liz Garbus. Garbus will be honored for her work and a screening of her latest film **THE FOURTH ESTATE** will highlight the event. Award-winning filmmaker Bonni Cohen (*An Inconvenient Sequel, The Rape of Europa*) will moderate the conversation following the screening. Garbus will be presented the award Thursday, July 26th at 5:30PM at the Castro Theatre in San Francisco. An additional screening of **THE FOURTH ESTATE** will take place Wednesday, August 1st at 4:00PM at the the Albany Twin Theatre in Albany.

“We are honored to present this year’s Freedom of Expression Award to Liz Garbus,” said JFI’s Program Director Jay Rosenblatt. “Over a long and storied career, Liz has shown herself to be as talented in documenting life in a notorious prison (*The Farm: Angola, USA*) as in reintroducing audiences to the voice of one of our greatest cultural treasures (*What Happened, Miss Simone?*). With her riveting new project **THE FOURTH ESTATE**, Liz Garbus has crafted an essential viewing experience for the tumultuous times our nation finds itself in.”

Liz Garbus has been at the forefront of nonfiction filmmaking for decades. The prolific two-time Academy Award® nominee, Grammy nominee, Peabody winner, Emmy winner and DGA-nominated director began her career with a searing look into prison life, *The Farm: Angola, USA* (1998). Co-directed with Wilbert Rideau and Jonathan Stack, the debut brought Garbus her first Best Documentary Oscar nomination and the Grand Jury Prize at Sundance. Garbus continued to hone her directing and producing talents with the acclaimed *The Execution of Wanda Jean* (2002), *Girlhood* (2003) and an examination of the First Amendment featuring her father, attorney Martin Garbus, *Shouting Fire: Stores from the Edge of Free Speech* (SFJFF 2009). She then directed *Bobby Fischer Against the World* (SFJFF 2011), an entertaining and thoughtful retelling of the Cold War chess face-off between Fischer and Boris Spassky. Garbus quickly followed up this success with *Love, Marilyn* (2012), an elegiac biography of Marilyn Monroe



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with never-before-seen footage and leading Hollywood actors and actresses reading from the late star's writings. Garbus was again nominated for the Best Documentary Oscar in 2016 for *What Happened, Miss Simone?*. SFJFF is honored to bestow this year's award to Garbus, whose powerful and distinctive films are a true embodiment of this award.

THE FOURTH ESTATE takes an in-depth look at the journalists working at The New York Times at a time when President Donald Trump as declared the majority of the nations news outlets "the enemy of the people". Garbus witnesses the inner workings of journalism and investigative reporting from the front lines during the administrations first year in office. The film made its World Premiere as the Closing Night Selection at the 2018 Tribeca Film Festival.

Film & Award Presentation: \$15 Members / \$18 General

Other screenings of THE FOURTH ESTATE: \$12 Members / \$15 General