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**COMMISSIONER OF THE MAYOR'S OFFICE OF MEDIA AND
ENTERTAINMENT TO SPEAK AT CHELSEA FILM FESTIVAL
OPENING NIGHT GALA**



Julie Menin is Commissioner of the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment which is composed of the Office of Film, Theatre and Broadcast, the nation's first film commission, and of NYC Media, the official television and radio network for the City of

New York. The Office of Media and Entertainment supports the City's \$8.7 billion film and television industry, a sector that contributes over 130,000 jobs to the City's economy. Upon her appointment in February 2016, Mayor de Blasio expanded the Agency's portfolio to include, for the first time, music, advertising, publishing, digital media and real estate as it relates to creative content. Prior to her current appointment, she was Commissioner of the Department of Consumer Affairs where she successfully increased restitution for consumers, reduced fines on small businesses, and administered NYC's Paid Sick Leave Law.

For two decades, Commissioner Menin has been a leading figure in the City's economic development sector, first, as the founder of Wall Street Rising in the wake of 9/11 and then, as the longest serving chair of Community Board 1. Menin practiced regulatory law at the law firm Wiley, Rein & Fielding in Washington, D.C., was Senior Regulatory Counsel at Colgate-Palmolive in NY and also owned a 100 person business which she founded in Lower Manhattan. She previously hosted and co-produced a news show on NBC local cable and has been the recipient of numerous awards including the Citizen's Union Public Service Award, City and State's 40 Under 40 and the League of Conservation Voters Community Service Award among others. She is a Magna Cum Laude graduate of Columbia University and earned her J.D. from Northwestern University School of Law.

CFF was founded by actresses Ingrid & Sonia Jean-Baptiste to give voices to the unheard by providing a platform to independent films and discovering new talents.

Chelsea Film Festival Board of Directors consists of renowned industry insiders: Paul Calderon, Elizabeth Kemp, and John Patrick Shanley.

The Advisory Board includes: Bruno Chatelin, Georges Leclere, Jeff Bandman, Pascal Chemin, Michel Abramowicz, Michael Ruotolo, Pascal Bonifay, Patrick Braoude, Ron Agam, Thandeka Zwana, Thembi Mtshali-Jones, Wissam Chahine and more.

The Chelsea Film Festival program will highlight international feature-length, short films and documentaries from independent or emerging filmmakers. The Fourth Edition of the Chelsea Film Festival will highlight films about Youth and will introduce foreign films to the public.

As Ingrid Jean-Baptiste, Founder of The Chelsea Film Festival, stated:

“Making the World a Better Place by Giving a Voice to the Unheard”

The Chelsea Film Festival (CFF) will hold its fourth edition in New York from **October 13-16, 2016** at the **Katie Murphy Amphitheatre (FIT), David Dubinsky Student Center (FIT), Cinepolis Chelsea, and other locations in Manhattan.**

Our Mission:

The Chelsea Film Institute is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit cultural organization that will help expose the underprivileged youth in Chelsea, NYC to the arts. Throughout the year, CFI will offer free Arts classes to these economically disadvantaged children.

Chelsea Film Festival (CFF) is an international film festival, enlightening the work of emerging filmmakers, producers, and actors. It offers a wide range of films, such as shorts, documentaries, and feature-length pieces. It empowers the work of risk-taking storytellers and remains committed to its mission to discover and develop independent artists and audiences around the world.

Connect with Chelsea Film Festival on our Social Media pages.

#CFFNY2016



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