

2020 No Man's Land Film Festival
Diversify Our Outdoor Program Summary

*Films with the * next to the title indicate female involvement in the production. It also indicates that they are in the running for the "Fem-Wow" award; ie. all-female production.*

Why Not Now? (2:51)

Director: Riley Hooper

At the age of 49, blind and afraid of water, Vivian Stancil dove in to save her life.

Unlimited: Serena Williams (1:16)

Director: Damien Chazelle

"There's no day that goes by that I feel like losing." Serena Williams. Work ethic of an underdog. Willpower of a champion. This is Unlimited Serena.

Meagan Martin: Athlete Spotlight (4:42)

Director: Jon Glassberg

Meagan Martin talks competition climbing and takes on Whispers of Wisdom (V10) RMNP, Colorado.

Do Better Together* (6:50)

Director and Producer: Shelma Jun

Female Director and Producer

Ayesha McGowan is a young black woman from New Jersey who is determined to become the first female African-American pro road cyclist. She won her first state championship in her third race and quickly noticed that she was one of the very few females of African-American descent on the scene. In fact, she discovered that there had not been a single African-American pro road cyclist, ever. She has taken it upon herself to become the first.

The Honeys and Bears (3:32)

Director: Veena Rao

Members of the Harlem Honeys and Bears, a synchronized swim team for seniors, describe the freedom of the water.

Journey To Your Dreams (4:44)

Director: Ben Briand

Follow the life journey of Ingrid Silva: from the slums of Rio to the professional Ballet stage of New York City.

Brujas (6:48)

Director: Miles Joris- Peyrafitte

A look at NYC's female skate culture and the girls who are taking a stand to shift social norms in their city. "Brujas" is an urban, free-form, creative and autonomous organization that seeks to build radical political coalition through youth culture. The group of minority female skaters express community through skateboarding, art and political organizing

Bekoji 100* (14:14)

Directors: Alistair Wilson and Julia Hanlon

Producers: Kayla Nolan and Julia Hanlon

Female Director and Producers

Most Inspiring | No Man's Land Film Festival 2020

Bekoji 100 explores the stories of Desta and Zabu, two adolescent female runners from Bekoji, Ethiopia who are supported by the Girls Gotta Run Foundation (GGRF). As they embark on completing the first-ever 100 mile, ultra relay race across Ethiopia alongside international runners and their GGRF teammates, they share their athletic ambitions and the trials they face as young women in their society.

The Litas* (7:07)

Director: William Desena

Producer: Lindsey Hagen

Female Producer

This is a film about Gevin Fax, the oldest member of the women motorcycle collective, The Litas. Growing up in Los Angeles as an African American lesbian in the 1960s, Gevin found that the world wasn't always forgiving. She started riding dirt bikes at the age of twelve which distanced her even further from the other kids. Though it was because of her love for riding that gifted her peace of mind; it was her meditation, her medicine, her way to escape all of the other noise. Now, because of The Litas, she shares her love for the road with thousands of women all over the world.

Surf Girls Jamaica* (16:32)

Directors: Joya Berrow and Lucy Jane

Producer: Joya Berrow

Female Directors and Producer

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Surf Girls Jamaica focuses on Imani Wilmot, an inspirational Jamaican surfer who uses the sport as a means of transforming the tough lives of the women around her, in Kingston and surrounding areas. Imani has harnessed the power of surfing to empower these women through training camps which bring women together to learn the mindful art of riding waves. This develops self-motivation, entrepreneurial spirit, respect for the environment and a deep sense of community. Globally, Imani has taken it as her personal responsibility to empower women of colour to have access to surfing and see a place for themselves within the global surf industry.

Mirnavator (11:06)

Director: Sarah Menzies

Ultra-runners overcome obstacles on every trail. In this film, Force of Nature Mirna Valerio overcomes the negative voices that don't believe she belongs in the sport.

This Land* (10:03)

Directors: Whitney Hassett and Chelsea Jolly

Producer: Faith E. Briggs and Addie Thompson

Female Directors and Producers

Fem-Wow (All-Woman Production) | No Man's Land Film Festival 2020

Runner and advocate Faith E. Briggs used to run through the streets of Brooklyn every morning. Now she's running 150 miles through three of our National Monuments that lay in the thick of the controversy around public lands. She will be accompanied by running companions - who represent diverse perspectives in what it means to be a public land owner. Conservationists are no longer reading Walden and hanging on the words of John Muir. Women, people of color, indigenous peoples and their knowledges and perspectives have been ignored in the conservation conversation. That is changing. The face of conservation is changing. The voices involved are changing. Those voices are speaking a new language and this is a new story. A story about land access told through a journey of empowerment. It is also a story about love - love for community, love for our country, and love for the spaces that have miraculously transformed the lives of these runners.

This short film is meant to act as both a powerful encouragement for those in the fight to find their place in the conservation effort and a tool to start these much-needed connections and conversations around public lands across our country.