Ambulante Film Festival 2020 unveils its programming dedicated to Resistencias and Sonidero

- The six films that make up the Resistencia section demonstrate to the viewer a to violence, injustice, impunity, and authoritarianism.
- With four films and various off-screen panels, the Sonidero section covers a diverse global music scene.

Mexico City, January 30, 2020 — For the second consecutive year, Ambulante Documentary Film Festival will present Resistencias, a section dedicated to documentaries with a focus on justice and the defense of human rights. Sonidero, the section dedicated to music, will also become part of the program.

Resistencia collect films that address issues in Mexico linked to justice and human rights. The films in this section are not only sponsored by Ambulante but by a variety of civil society groups and non-profit organizations. “Resistencias collects a handful of films of diverse backgrounds that, from different approaches to cinematographic language and plural motivations, converge upon awakening a discomfort in the viewer to violence, injustice, impunity, and authoritarianism. All this while continuing to showcase those who live examples of dignity, and resilience.”

The films that are part of the Resistance programming include:

- **Colectiv** | Alexander Nanau | Romania, Luxembourg | 2019
- **For Sama** | Waad al-Kateab | Edward Watts | United Kingdom, Syria | 2019
- **¿Qué les pasó a las abjeas?** | Adriana Otero | Robin Canul | Mexico | 2019
- **Que sea ley** | Juan Solanas | France, Argentina, Uruguay | 2019
- **Hablar sobre árboles** | Suhaib Gasmelbari | France, Sudan, Germany, Qatar | 2019
- **Alive | Vivos** | Ai Weiwei | Germany, Mexico | 2019

Films like **¿Qué les pasó a las abjeas?** addresses the extinction of these pollinators in the state of Campeche due to the excessive use of agrochemicals. The documentary portrays the struggle of indigenous communities against an international corporation and documents the obstacles — of which include discrimination and collusion of interests between the private sector and the government — that they face in this process.
The section also includes *Que sea ley*, which documents the campaign in the streets and in the legislative power to guarantee women’s access to safe, legal and free abortion in Argentina; a fight starring the Marea Verde social movement that has spread to several countries in Latin America. With pronouncements from clergy members, legislators, activists, and abortion survivors, the film reflects the deep gap that divides Argentines around the issue.

The documentary resonates in Mexico, where the Green Tide movement has grown and gained relevance in various spaces, and where, in 2019, Oaxaca became the second state in the country (after the state of Mexico) to allow abortion in the first twelve weeks of pregnancy.

*Sonidero*, our programming dedicated to artists and their music scene, has positioned itself over the years as one of the most popular of our film festival. In 2020, *Sonidero* offers an expansive selection of films, which encompasses several musical genres — from *Cuban Son* to *Anglo-Saxon Rock* — and various activities — including female bands and urban dance battles — whose goal is to extend the experience of documentary film beyond the cinema screen.

The films that make up the Sonidero section include:

- *Eliades Ochoa: from Cuba and for the world* | Cynthia Biestek | Mexico | 2019
- *Mystify: Michael Hutchence* | Richard Lowenstein | Australia | 2019
- *Una banda de Chicas* | Marilina Giménez | Argentina | 2018
- *Lil ‘Buck: the real swan* | Louis Wallecan | France, United States | 2019

As Julián Etienne, Director of Programming for Ambulante put it: “With *Sonidero* we seek to explore all the ways to enjoy music: through dancing and listening. *Sonidero* also seeks to make other facets of the music scene even more visible than before: heavy barriers for women to even access the industry, the disputes between what the market wants versus the creative vitality of tradition; and the marked contradictions between stardom and the intimate life of artists are some of the veins followed by the documentaries that make up the section.”

The film festival will travel to eight Mexican states between March 19 and May 28, 2020: Querétaro (March 19-26), Durango (March 26-April 2), Coahuila (April 2-9), Mexico City (April 15-30), Chihuahua (April 30-May 7), Veracruz (May 7-14), Oaxaca (May 14-21) and Puebla (May 21-28).
For more information on Resistencias and Sonidero please visit our page at: www.ambulante.org

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Ambulante is an organization dedicated to supporting and distributing documentary cinema as a tool for cultural and social transformation. Founded in Mexico in 2005 by Gael García Bernal, Diego Luna, and Elena Fortes, and currently led by Paulina Suárez, the organization takes documentary films to places to expose people to the genre in order to promote dialogue and reflection on relevant social issues.

Ambulante Documentary Film Festival is the largest documentary film festival in Mexico and unique exhibition space in the world. Each year, it travels to several states throughout Mexico for more than two months that showcases around one hundred titles, more than one hundred guests and 150 locations. The festival is aimed for open access with more than 70% of its programming offered for free.