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WIF ANNOUNCES JANE FONDA AND ZAZIE BEETZ AMONG 2021 HONOREES, JENNY YANG TO HOST EVENT

The WIF HONORS, Whose Theme This Year Is “TRAILBLAZERS OF THE NEW NORMAL” Will Be Held October 6 at the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, California; October 1, 2021 — WIF (Women In Film, Los Angeles) announced today that JANE FONDA and ZAZIE BEETZ will also be honorees at the 2021 WIF Honors that will be held on Wednesday, October 6 at the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures in Los Angeles. They will join the three pairs of women previously announced to be receiving Crystal Awards: Marlee Matlin and Siân Heder, Jean Smart and Hannah Einbinder, and Zendaya and Ashley Levinson. Additionally, WIF has announced that JENNY YANG will host the event.

This year, Trailblazers of the New Normal will celebrate the women who are transforming the industry for the better. The event is uniquely designed to acknowledge the transformative work that it takes to make the entertainment industry more inclusive and equitable. The WIF Honors is celebrating the collective efforts that this year’s honorees have made to improve our world and our business.

It is with great pride that WIF is this year debuting the Jane Fonda Humanitarian Award, which is named for its inaugural recipient, JANE FONDA—a woman who has performed the rare feat of being an icon in the worlds of activism and storytelling, and in fact uses her elevated platform of celebrity to further the cause of the human condition. WIF Executive Director Kirsten Schaffer says, “Jane Fonda has spent her entire career as a fearless advocate for people and the planet. No matter what the cost to her career or even her individual safety, she has put the needs of social justice ahead of her own; finding meaning and purpose, friendship and community in the pursuit of a better world. She has led by example, and we couldn’t be prouder to name our Humanitarian Award after her.”

WIF will also be continuing its 16-year tradition of celebrating the WIF Max Mara Face of the Future Award® with this year’s honoree ZAZIE BEETZ. Beetz was honored at an exclusive Max
Mara dinner and attended the Max Mara Spring/Summer 2022 Fashion Show in Milan, Italy on September 23, 2021.

The WIF Honors are supported by sponsor Max Mara for the 18th year, alongside Visionary Partners ShivHans Pictures and Lexus and Major Partners Google, Apple TV+, and STARZ. The event is designed and produced by Carleen Cappelletti of Anchor Street Collective.

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**About The Honorees (Headshots Available [HERE](#))**

**Jane Fonda / Jane Fonda Humanitarian Award**

Jane Fonda is a two-time Academy Award®-winning actor (Best Actress in 1971 for *Klute* and in 1978 for *Coming Home*), author, activist, and fitness guru. Her career has spanned over 50 years, accumulating a body of film work that includes over 45 films and crucial work on behalf of political causes such as women's rights, Native Americans, and the environment. She is a seven-time Golden Globe® winner and was honored with the Cecil B. DeMille Award in 2021, Honorary Palme d'Or honoree, 2014 AFI Life Achievement Award winner, and the 2019 recipient of the Stanley Kubrick Excellence in Film Award as part of BAFTA's Britannia Awards. Fonda will next be seen in the seventh and final season of *Grace & Frankie*, which will be Netflix's longest running original series. It is for her work on the series that she received an Emmy® nomination for Outstanding Lead Actress in a Comedy Series in 2017. She was last seen on the big screen in *Book Club*, alongside Diane Keaton, Mary Steenburgen, and Candice Bergen. Fonda also premiered *Jane Fonda in Five Acts*, a documentary for HBO chronicling her life and activism, at the 2018 Sundance Film Festival. The documentary received an Emmy nomination for Outstanding Documentary or Nonfiction Special in 2019. Fonda celebrated her 80th birthday by raising $1 million for each of her nonprofits, Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Power & Potential and The Women's Media Center. Currently, Fonda is leading the charge on Fire Drill Fridays, a national movement to protest government inaction on climate change. Her latest book, *What Can I Do? My Path from Climate Despair to Action*, details her personal journey with the movement and provides solutions for communities to combat the climate crisis.

**Zazie Beetz / The WIF Max Mara Face of the Future Award®**

Zazie Beetz is best known for her co-lead role in FX Networks’ Golden Globe-winning series *Atlanta*. The show earned Beetz an Emmy® nomination for Best Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series. Currently, Beetz stars alongside Winston Duke in the Sony Pictures Classics feature *Nine Days*, which earned a nomination for the coveted Grand Jury Prize at the 2020 Sundance Film Festival. Next, Beetz will star as the infamous Stagecoach Mary in the first ever all-Black American Western feature film from Netflix, *The Harder They Fall*. The film will open the 2021 London Film Festival. In 2019, Beetz appeared in the Oscar-winning thriller *Joker*, which won the coveted Cannes Golden Lion Award, before receiving 11 Academy Award nominations, including Best Picture. Recently, Beetz returned to the television screen in Jordan Peele's anthology reboot of *The Twilight Zone* on CBS All Access. Her recent film credits include:
Amazon’s *Seberg*, FOX Searchlight’s *Lucy in the Sky*, Annapurna Pictures’ *Wounds*, Netflix’s *High Flying Bird*, Marvel Studios’ blockbuster *Deadpool 2* opposite Ryan Reynolds, A24’s *Slice* opposite Chance the Rapper, and *Sollers Point*.

**About the Host**

**Jenny Yang** is a former labor organizer turned stand up comedian, writer, and actor. In 2020 she was selected as one of *Variety*’s “10 Comics to Watch” and *Vulture*’s “Comedians You Should Know.” Yang is a co-producer on HBO Max’s new television series *Gordita Chronicles*, executive produced by Eva Longoria, and has written for Fox’s *Last Man Standing* starring Tim Allen and E!'s late-night talk show *Busy Tonight* with Busy Philipps. Taiwan-born and Southern California-raised, Yang uses her platform to amplify issues around immigration, diversity, and media representation, pop culture, intersectional feminism, and social justice. During the Covid-19 pandemic, Yang founded “Comedy Crossing,” a hit stand up comedy show held inside the “Animal Crossing” video game and watched live via Zoom. Since June 2020, the show has raised nearly $40,000 for #BlackLivesMatter-related causes. Yang was honored by President Obama as a “White House Champion of Change” for her leadership in Asian American and Pacific Islander Art and Storytelling in 2016.

**About WIF and the Awards**

Founded in 1973 as Women In Film, Los Angeles, WIF advocates for and advances the careers of women working in the screen industries, to achieve parity and transform culture. We support women and people of marginalized genders in front of and behind the camera and across all levels of experience. We work to change culture through our distinguished pipeline programs; we advocate for gender parity through research, education, and media campaigns; and we build a community centered around these goals. Membership is open to all screen industry professionals, and more information can be found on our website: wif.org. Follow WIF on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube.

Since 1977, WIF has annually honored outstanding women in the entertainment industry who have broken ground and excelled in their chosen fields. Outstanding individuals who have been honored in past WIF awards programs include Julie Andrews, Maya Angelou, Angela Bassett, Cate Blanchett, Carol Burnett, Glenn Close, Geena Davis, Viola Davis, Ava DuVernay, Nora Ephron, Audrey Hepburn, Jodie Foster, Nicole Kidman, Brie Larson, Gwyneth Paltrow, Amy Poehler, Issa Rae, Meryl Streep, Barbra Streisand, Cicely Tyson, Kerry Washington, and more iconic women.

The **Jane Fonda Humanitarian Award** honors women who have used their prominent entertainment industry profiles to effect radical change and shed light on issues using their powerful voices. WIF has given a humanitarian award named for lawyer and civil rights advocate Norma Zarky since 1979. This year we honor **Jane Fonda** by bestowing her name on the award, in recognition of her fearlessness in speaking out and inspiring generations of activists.
Each year, Max Mara presents the **WIF Max Mara Face of the Future Award®** to an actress who is experiencing a turning point in her career through her work in the film and television industries, through her contributions to the community at large, in recognition of her outstanding achievements, and her embodiment of style and grace. **Zazie Beetz** is honored for these qualities in addition to her talent and commitment to climate activism.

**About Max Mara**

MAX MARA founded in 1951 by the late visionary Achille Maramotti, is one of the highest expressions of Italian luxury and style. A contemporary collection of ready-to-wear and accessories for today's powerful women. Recognized for its timeless designs and its luxurious fabrics, Max Mara is revered for the classification of the absolute coat, sharp suiting, and modern accessories. Max Mara is distributed in 2,500 locations in more than 100 countries worldwide. The Max Mara Fashion Group counts nine different brands. The company remains privately held and managed by the Maramotti family.

**About ShivHans Pictures**

ShivHans Pictures, founded by producer Shivani Rawat, is a production and finance company creating unique and compelling feature films outside the Hollywood studio model. The company strives to streamline the financing process in an effort to fully support the visions of independent filmmakers while collaborating with top-tier talent. Recent ShivHans Pictures projects include Netflix's *The Ice Road*, directed by Jonathan Hensleigh and starring Liam Neeson and Laurence Fishburne, and produced and co-financed alongside CODE Entertainment; RIJE Films' *The Water Man*, starring and featuring the directorial debut of David Oyelowo; Aaron Sorkin's Academy Award-nominated *The Trial of the Chicago 7*, distributed by Netflix and for which Shivani Rawat served as an Executive Producer; and Lionsgate's *Wander Darkly*, written and directed by Tara Miele and starring Sienna Miller and Diego Luna. Previous films from ShivHans Pictures include *Danny Collins*, the Academy Award-nominated *Trumbo*, the Academy Award-nominated *Captain Fantastic*, and *Beirut*, all distributed by Bleecker Street, and *The Polka King*, released by Netflix worldwide. In 2019, ShivHans Pictures expanded into distribution with Bleecker Street, releasing films including *Hotel Mumbai* and *Brian Banks*, which ShivHans also produced. Upcoming co-distribution projects include Academy Award winner Guy Nattiv’s biographical film *Golda*, starring Helen Mirren. For information about ShivHans Pictures and its upcoming slate of films, please visit [www.ShivHans.com](http://www.ShivHans.com) and follow the company on Instagram/Facebook/Twitter @ShivHansPics.

**About Lexus**

Lexus' passion for brave design, imaginative technology, and exhilarating performance enables the luxury lifestyle brand to create amazing experiences for its customers. Lexus began its journey in 1989 with two luxury sedans and a commitment to pursue perfection. Since then, Lexus has developed its lineup to meet the needs of global luxury customers in more than 90 countries. In the United States, Lexus vehicles are sold through 241 dealers offering a full lineup of luxury vehicles. With six models incorporating Lexus Hybrid Drive, Lexus is the luxury hybrid
leader. Lexus also offers eight F SPORT models and two F performance models. Lexus is committed to being a visionary brand that anticipates the future for luxury customers.

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