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## BIOGRAPHIES OF THE MEDICI TEAM AND SPEAKERS

### MEDICI TEAM

#### **Tamara Tatishvili – MEDICI Head of training**

Training manager and strategy adviser Tamara Tatishvili has been working in the audiovisual sector since 2002. In 2004, Tamara Tatishvili co-founded the "Independent Filmmakers' Association–South Caucasus" (IFA-SC) and became its executive director. Through the educational and promotional activities of IFA-SC, she built an extensive regional and international network of film professionals. In 2008 and 2009, Tamara Tatishvili was based in London and worked for BOP Consulting, overseeing research, strategy, planning and evaluation for culture, media, digital industries, and innovation. From 2010 to 2013, she was the director of the Georgian National Film Center (GNFC). During and subsequent to this position, she was the Georgian representative in the European Cinema Support Fund – EURIMAGES – as well as the Georgian representative in the European Film Promotion (EFP). Since 2014, Tamara Tatishvili has been involved in various international film activities, combining several professional roles. She works as a mentor for the international training SOFA–School of Film Advancement, and as a festival programmer for Bridges East of West Film Days.

#### **Petri Kempainen – MEDICI Moderator/consultant**

Petri Kempainen is an independent film and TV consultant, working internationally in financing and development, policies and training. He has been the creative adviser of Aurora Studios in Helsinki since 2020, participating in building the company's profile and strategy in production and distribution. He became its CEO in summer 2021. Petri Kempainen has had a background in culture journalism and publishing before he embarked on his film and television career at YLE in the mid-1990s. He later served at The Finnish Film Foundation (2005-2013) and as the CEO of NordiskFilm & TV Fond (2013-2019). From 2006 to 2013, he was a member of the Eurimages Board of Management. He has also initiated workshops such as Nordic Genre Boost and Nordic Distribution Boost, worked for training organisations like EAVE and has been a board member at the Swedish Film Institute since November 2019.

### SPEAKERS

#### **Mia Bays – Director of the BFI Film Fund**

Since October 2021, Mia Bays has been the Director of the BFI Film Fund, the largest public film fund in the UK. She has worked on over 150 films as a producer, sales agent and distributor, of both documentaries and fictions. She has produced an Oscar winner and received a BAFTA nomination for Best Debut for her work on the iconic music film "Scott Walker – 30th Century Man". She is a renowned champion of new/emerging talent (working on the early films of Riz Ahmed, Arinzé Kene, Hong Khaou and Deborah Haywood, Gavin Hood and Lucy Walker), a cultural activist and equality agitator (through Birds' Eye View and Reclaim the Frame.)

**Julia Berg – Founder of Untamed Stories, a UK & European-based production company**

Julia Berg is a development producer, who started her career at New York's Likely Story, working with talent such as Charlie Kaufman and Nicole Holofcener. When she moved to London, Julia Berg worked for producer James Wilson, developing projects for filmmakers Jonathan Glazer and Lynne Ramsay, including the Cannes award-winning *'You Were Never Really Here'*. Julia Berg founded Untamed Stories, a regional female-led production company that encourages projects led by underrepresented talent. In 2021, Untamed Stories partnered with the founders of The Writers Lab US, Elizabeth Kaiden and Nitza Wilon to launch The Writers Lab UK + Ireland and The Writers Lab Europe for women screenwriters who are 40+. Together, they oversee the development and packaging of all projects in the Labs.

**Mette Damgaard-Sørensen – Artistic director at New Danish Screen**

Mette Damgaard-Sørensen studied film at the University of Copenhagen. Prior to heading New Danish Screen as an artistic director, Mette Damgaard-Sørensen was Principal at the European Film College, as well as editing commissioner for feature films at The Danish Film Institute. She has worked as a creative producer, script writer, and communication adviser. She was the founding editor in chief of the Danish film periodical EKKO and worked as a film critic in national television.

The talent development scheme "New Danish Screen" has existed since 2014. The scheme supports emerging directors, writers and producers in developing, producing and distributing their first fiction features, long format documentaries, VR and web series.

**Erik Glijnis – Producer at Lemming Film (NL/BE/DE)**

Erik Glijnis graduated as a Bachelor of Economics in Haarlem before studying for producer at the Netherlands Film Academy in Amsterdam. He is also an ACE graduate (2021). The films he produces are rated as experimental and ground-breaking, but they have also reached a wide audience. In 2018, Screendaily listed Erik Glijnis as a future leading producer. Completed films include, among others, the documentary STRANGER IN PARADISE by Guido Hendriks, MY GIRAFFE by Barbara Bredero, DEAD & BEAUTIFUL by David Verbeek and MET MES by Sam de Jong. DO NOT HESITATE by Shariff Korver premiered at the 2021 International Narrative Competition of the Tribeca Film Festival and was the Dutch Oscar entry in 2022. Currently, Erik Glijnis is in (post)production with feature films such as ABOVE THE DUST by Wang Xiaoshuai, SWEET DREAMS by Ena Sendijarevic, CHOCOBAR by Lucrecia Martel and RHEINGOLD by Fatih Akin.

**Rufat Hasanov – Head of the Audiovisual and Interactive Media Department at the Ministry for Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan**

After a Bachelor of Arts in Theater from Bates College in Lewiston (USA) and a Postgraduate Degree in Directing for Cinema & TV from the HCFDS in Moscow, Rufat Hasanov first worked as an editor for several internationally acclaimed projects, including BROTHER DEJAN by Bakur Bakuradze, and INTIMATE PARTS by Natasha Merkulova. His debut feature CHAMELEON, co-directed with Elvin Adigozel, was nominated for the Golden Leopard at the Locarno Film Festival in 2013 and his recent feature THE ISLAND WITHIN won the Heart of Sarajevo for Best Director in 2020. He joined the Ministry for Culture in 2020. As Head of the Audiovisual and Interactive Media Department, he has been involved in several initiatives, including the launch of the Azerbaijan Film Commission "Filming Azerbaijan" as well as the establishment of ARKA – the Cinema Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

**Elizabeth Kaiden – Co-founder of The Writers Lab, Europe**

A graduate of Princeton University and the Yale School of Drama, Elizabeth Kaiden has worked in theatre administration, education, and production, and as a theatre and film critic. She previously served as Head of Development for Tangerine Entertainment, an independent production company that produces films directed by women. She has also acted as a mentor at Stowe Story Labs and for Screen Australia. Elizabeth Kaiden is the co-founder of The Writers Lab for women over 40 and a founding partner of Women in the Script Trade (WIST), both in partnership with Nitza Wilon. WIST does development work with exceptional women screenwriters. It also runs script development labs for the Athena Film Festival in New York and Los Angeles.

**Johanna Koljonen – Media Industry Analyst, CEO Participation Design Agency, Sweden**

Johanna Koljonen is a media industry analyst, broadcaster, experience designer and writer. She acts as a consultant for participatory transitions in the culture sector and public arts funding, and also serves on the board of the Swedish Film Institute. She is the author of the Göteborg Film Festival's annual Nostradamus Report, a multiyear international initiative that documents and analyses industry changes and makes projections for the future.

**Claus Ladegaard – CEO of the Danish Film Institute**

Claus Ladegaard holds a master's degree in communication. He previously worked as a documentary director and a producer of documentaries, factual television and fiction. Before joining the Danish Film Institute, he worked as a producer and partner in the production company Easy Film A/S for 10 years and was a board member of the Danish Producers' Association. He also worked as a consultant and teacher in the film, TV and radio industry in Denmark. In addition, he chaired the board of the Nordic Film & TV Fund. The Danish Film Institute is the main film funding body in Denmark. It supports 20 to 25 features and 30 to 35 documentaries a year, along with TV drama, talent films and digital projects. The film institute also runs the film archive with a cinematheque in Copenhagen and branches in three other cities.

**Susan Newman-Baudais – Executive director at Eurimages**

Of dual Irish and French nationality, Susan Newman-Baudais boasts 27 years' experience in the audiovisual sector. She has broad experience in the UK television sector, both as a producer and director for on-air promotions at ITV broadcaster Granada, and subsequently as a presentation editor at Channel 4 Television. She has also worked as a special effects producer in London and in the post-production sector in France. She first joined Eurimages in 2012 as a project manager, especially in the field of debut films, and for the revised Council of Europe Convention on Cinematographic Co-production. Since 2020, she has worked as Head of the fund's co-production support programme. Susan Newman-Baudais took up her new Executive Director position at Eurimages in March 2022.

**Orwa Nyrabia – Artistic director of the International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA)**

An actor by training (*Gate of the Sun*, Yusri Nassrallah, Cannes 2004), Orwa Nyrabia started his film career as 1st AD of *Ossama Mohammad* (*Sacrifices*, Cannes 2002). He worked as a journalist at the same time until he co-founded his first company in Damascus 2002. In 2014, he co-founded No Nation Films, Berlin. Before taking the artistic lead of the world's largest documentary film and new media festival, IDFA, Orwa Nyrabia co-founded Syria's first independent film festival, DOX BOX. He also worked as producer, with credits such as *REPUBLIC OF SILENCE* (Diana El Jeiroudi, Venice, 2021), *NOTTURNO* (Gianfranco Rosi, Venice, 2020), *SILVERED WATER* (Ossama Mohammad and W. Bedirxan, Cannes, 2014) and *RETURN TO HOMS* (Talal Derki, IDFA, 2013)

**Katrine Schlüter Schierbeck – lawyer, partner at The Law Factory**

Katrine Schlüter Schierbeck works as a production lawyer for Danish and Scandinavian film and television production companies. She assists them in the drafting of option agreements, scriptwriter's agreements, director's agreements, co-production agreements, financing agreements, production service agreements, commissioning agreements etc. Katrine Schlüter Schierbeck also provides legal assistance to Scandinavian production companies that require bridge financing in order to secure the cash flow of a given production. Katrine Schlüter Schierbeck teaches at the National Film School of Denmark and at the EAVE Producers' Workshop as a legal expert. Over the past years, Katrine Schlüter Schierbeck has worked, among others, on film and TV productions such as KAMIKAZE, THE INVESTIGATION, MARGARETE-QUEEN OF THE NORTH, etc.

**Juliane Schulze – Strategic creative economy expert in business, finance, investment and sustainability, Germany**

As an executive adviser with more than 30 years' experience in the creative economy, Juliane Schulze has extensive cross-industrial knowledge. She acts as a consultant for European and international funding institutions and business agencies, specialising in financing and business strategies for audiovisual and technology-driven entrepreneurs. As a coach and mentor, she supports founders and SMEs in investment readiness and access to finance, and lectures at international festivals, conferences, and international business summits. In 2020, Juliane Schulze initiated create.sustain.invest., that is aimed at building an ecosystem for creative industry start-ups offering sustainability solutions for equity investors interested in responsible innovation. She is the director of Investors Lab Berlin, and a Fellow at the Competence Centre Cultural and Creative Industries of the Federal Republic of Germany. She lectures at the Free University Berlin and the DFFB (German Film and Television Academy Berlin) as well as at several industry events.