



"THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO FILM COMPANY (TFC) HOSTS DISTRIBUTION WORKSHOP"



The Trinidad and Tobago Film Company (TFC) hosted a Distribution Workshop on Monday May 19th, 2008 facilitated by Frances-Anne Solomon, the Director of "A Winter Tale" currently being screened at Movietowne, Globe and Trincity 8.

The Workshop was attended by twenty-eight film-makers and producers creating a lively and interesting discussion.

TFC has supported the promotion of Trinidad and Tobago content at international Festivals including the Caribbean Tales Film Festival (Canada), the Pan African Festival and the Cambridge Film Festival, UK. Local films and television programmes such as "Jab", "Westwood Park" and "Sista God" have played at regional and international festivals. The Workshop was organized by TFC to provide film-makers with information on distribution and to examine avenues for international distribution of T&T content.

The Workshop facilitator Frances Ann Solomon, is a T&T film-maker who has produced many films including Peggy Su!, What My Mother Told Me, Lord Have Mercy! and "A Winter Tale".

Ms. Solomon encouraged T&T film-makers to continue telling their stories from their perspective and to write from their experiences. She suggested that marketing and distribution avenues be developed with Festivals which resonate Caribbean content such as the Pan African Festival, African Diaspora in NY, USA and Wagga Dod of Burkina Faso.

Frances Ann encourage the film-makers "to get out and meet people on a mass level".

Carla Foderingham, CEO, TTFC noted that, " whilst the emphasis has been on the creation of programmes to provide seed funding for local producers, this distribution workshop is the first step in developing a more structured platform to distribute local content to international markets".

The response of the workshop was very positive and participants expressed satisfaction with the information shared. Mr. Kirk Budhooram, writer and producer, "Kidnapped":

"The workshop was very illuminating. It has reaffirmed some of my ideas about distribution and has given me new ones. I am very encouraged that we Trinbagonian filmmakers can move ahead creating niche markets. Ms. Solomon has impressed me with her humbleness and her willingness to divulge her much hard-earned knowledge on the world of distribution. "

Mr. Jean Michel Gibert, producer, "Soca Power":

"I think it was very, very informative because of the large experience of Frances- Anne Solomon to promote and find alternative distribution networks for Caribbean movies, which can be utilised by The Trinidad and Tobago Film Company and ourselves to define a proper distribution strategy".

TTFC's website, www.trinidadandtobagofilm.com, would also serve as a marketing tool to highlight clips of local films to the world.

The TTFC continues to provide training and film-specific workshops. The next series of workshops entitled "The Business of Film" begins in June 2008 across the country.

For more information on programmes and events contact the TTFC at:

www.trinidadandtobagofilm.com
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