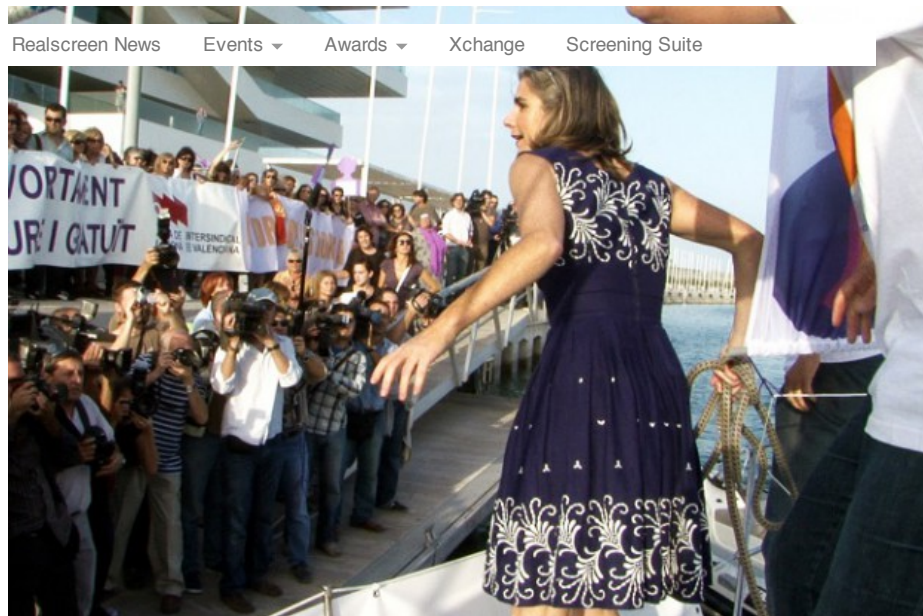




MIPDoc '14: Cinephil picks up SXSW-winner "Vessel"



18 hours ago by [Adam Benzine](#)



Israeli sales company Cinephil has acquired world rights for Diana Whitten's SXSW award-winning abortion documentary *Vessel* (pictured).

The film [won the audience award at SXSW last month](#), along with Special Jury Recognition for Political Courage. It tells the story of Rebecca Gomperts, the doctor who founded Women on Waves, which provides abortions for women onboard a ship in offshore waters.

In a recent interview with *realscreen*, director Witten [spoke of the challenges of making the doc](#). "I was a first-time filmmaker working on a highly controversial issue with a story that, quite frankly, scared people a little bit," she recalled.

The 88-minute film has support from Impact Partners and Chicken and Egg Pictures, and is produced by Whitten and Mitchell Block. The exec producers are Geralyn Dreyfous, Dan Cogan and Abigail Disney.

Cinephil MD Philippa Kowarsky is selling the doc at MIPDoc and MIPTV in Cannes, alongside a portfolio that includes *Ukraine is Not a Brothel*, *Cathedrals of Culture*, *The Gatekeepers* and *The Act of Killing*.

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