



— FEMALE —
FILM CLUB

Resources

Film: Listen (2020)

Director: Ana Rocha De Sousa



Ana Rocha De Sousa: "Listen felt urgent to me not only as a filmmaker but also as a mother. The shapes and shades of different sides of a story, like a dance in between the right and the wrong, interest me. The capacity of positioning ourselves in someone else's shoes paves the way for change. Union, support and compassion achieve usually better results. This film is to me a painful journey on how we see, what we judge or believe and what is actually real."



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Trailer:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Lmx00jht5U&feature=emb_title

Fun facts:

- Ana Rocha De Sousa moved to the UK to study film at the London Film School and also has a degree in fine arts.
- Ana Rocha had before her directing debut a long and respectable acting career in her native Portugal.
- Maisie Sly, playing the deaf child Lu, could barely communicate with Ana, however Ana mentions: ‘I’m not able to communicate with her very easily because I don’t know much British sign language. But it’s incredible how souls connect without verbal communication. It was a very beautiful journey, in that sense, because you totally understand that life is not about words. You look at a child like her, and a beautiful connection can happen without words and even without gestures.’
- The film was the most voted production among the members of the Portuguese Academy of Cinema (APC) to represent Portugal at the 93rd American Film Academy Awards.
- The production was filmed on the outskirts of London with a Portuguese and English cast
- Ana Rocha: ‘My father was a judge, and my relationship with justice is very deep. I was brought up with a sense of trying always to be fair, and always positioning myself to try to understand right and wrong. And [right and wrong] is not black and white, of course. Life is not black and white. Ever. So finding that balance can be very hard sometimes, and that’s what interests me.’



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Festival Appearances and awards:

- **Venice International Film Festival (world premiere)**

WON:

Future Lion Award

Orizzonti jury prize

Bisato d'Oro Award for Best Performance

Sorriso Diverso Venezia Award (best foreign language film)

Luigi De Laurentis Award (best debut film)

Venice Horizons Award (special jury prize)

- **CinEuphoria Awards**

WON:

Best Director

Best Supporting Actor

Best Film

Best Actress

- **Zagreb Film Festival**

WON

Best Film



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Video material:

Bienalle Venice	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6mFiZER_k8k
Film Radio	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GOEkWrVf11I
Bienalle Awards	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CS38XUFL2Uo

Interviews:

Screen Daily	https://www.screendaily.com/features/listen-director-ana-rocha-de-sousa-on-making-a-film-about-forced-adoptions-in-london/5152870.article
CineEuropa	https://cineuropa.org/en/interview/392334/
Variety	https://variety.com/2020/film/global/venice-film-festival-ana-rocha-listen-1234761791/

Reviews:

The Hollywood Reporter	https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/news/listen-film-review-venice-2020
Potuguese-American Journal	https://portuguese-american-journal.com/film-director-ana-rocha-de-sousa-nominated-for-2021-oscars-los-angeles-ca/
CineEuropa	https://cineuropa.org/en/newsdetail/392541/
Screen Daily	https://www.screendaily.com/reviews/listen-venice-review/5152697.article