

## 2020 FILM JURY

### Claire Carter



Claire Carter is a writer and filmmaker based in North Wales, UK. She is Artistic Director at Kendal Mountain Festival, where she aims to connect new audiences and new kinds of 'outdoor' with the heritage and potential of mountains and their metaphors. She is the Engagement Office for the UK Outdoor Industries Association, working on future leaders, sustainability, diversity and nature connection. She is an editor and contributor on the forthcoming anthology of women's authorship in adventure Waymaking. Her films Operation Moffat and The Bothy Project have been screened at Banff and festivals worldwide.

### Reena Mohan



Reena Mohan has been directing, producing and editing documentary films for over four decades, working out of India, Dubai, Kathmandu and London. Her work has been recognised with special mentions and awards in many international and national film festivals. She curates thematic packages from South Asia for film festivals, writes on cinema and conducts workshops on documentary practice. She was Co-Director of the IAWRT Asian Women's Film Festival, New Delhi, for several years and has been a jury member at documentary film festivals in India and abroad.

**Subina Shrestha**



Subina Shrestha is an Emmy nominated, award-winning journalist and filmmaker. From undercover reporting in Myanmar during cyclone Nargis, to investigating child slavery, and to covering Nepal's earthquake and its aftermath, Subina has steered major news coverage, often as the only international journalist on the scene; and told stories of people whose lives have been affected by natural and human-made disasters. She was a 2017 Nieman fellow at Harvard and 2019 Global Media Makers fellow at Film Independent.

**Bryan Smith**



A decade ago Bryan Smith bought his first camera at WalMart and started calling himself a filmmaker. Armed with a \$500 handycam, he embarked on a kayaking expedition to the far reaches of Arunachal Pradesh, India. While his imagery barely cracked amateur status on that first expedition, his passion and persistence would carry him through the ranks of the industry in the span of just 10 years.

His first film, 49 Megawatts, documented a community's struggle with a hydroelectric project on the Ashlu River and eventually led him to the hallways of National Geographic. He received an Expedition Council grant to lead a team of kayakers into the wilds of Kamchatka and went on to direct The Man Who Can Fly for the National Geographic Channel. After several years as a freelance director of photography for National Geographic, Bryan founded Reel Water Productions. A boutique production



company based in Squamish, British Columbia specializing in documentary, expedition and commercial content.

Bryan currently leads a team of like minded creatives in the pursuit of authentic storytelling. Their award-winning films have graced festival circuits, television networks and the online community. Bryan believes the best projects are those with a healthy chance of failure and pass a 60/40 rule. Stories with a 60% chance of succeeding and a 40% chance of failing seem to produce the elements of unknown, emotion and challenge that audiences crave.