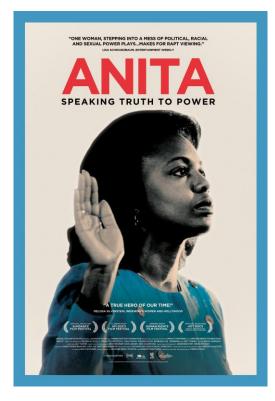
SAMUEL GOLDWYN FILMS



ANITA

Directed by Academy Award®-Winning director Freida Mock

Featuring Anita Hill

Running Time: 77 minutes

To download press notes and photography, please visit: <u>www.press.samuelgoldwynfilms.com</u> USERNAME: press / PASSWORD: golden!

SYNOPSIS

An entire country watched transfixed as a poised, beautiful African-American woman in a blue dress sat before a Senate committee of 14 white men and with a clear, unwavering voice recounted the repeated acts of sexual harassment she had endured while working with U.S. Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas. That October day in 1991 Anita Hill, a bookish law professor from Oklahoma, was thrust onto the world stage and instantly became a celebrated, hated, venerated, and divisive figure.

Anita Hill's graphic testimony was a turning point for gender equality in the U.S. and ignited a political firestorm about sexual misconduct and power in the workplace that resonates still today. She has become an American icon, empowering millions of women and men around the world to stand up for equality and justice.

Against a backdrop of sex, politics, and race, **ANITA** reveals the intimate story of a woman who spoke truth to power. Directed by Academy Award[®]-winning filmmaker Freida Mock, the film is both a celebration of Anita Hill's legacy and a rare glimpse into her private life with friends and family, many of whom were by her side that fateful day 22 years ago. Anita Hill courageously speaks openly and intimately for the first time about her experiences that led her to testify before the Senate and the obstacles she faced in simply telling the truth. She also candidly discusses what happened to her life and work in the 22 years since.

ANITA is directed, written, and produced by Freida Mock (MAYA LIN: A STRONG VISION, WRESTLING WITH ANGELS: PLAYWRIGHT TONY KUSHNER, G-DOG)

Executive Producers are Geralyn Dreyfous, Regina K. Scully, Dan Cogan, Barbara Lee, Barbara Dobkin, Eric Dobkin and Freada Klein. Brian Johnson is Editor. Cinematographers are Bestor Cram, Don Lenzer and Erik Daarstad, with original music by Lili Haydn.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

With the 20th anniversary of the Hill/Thomas Senate Judiciary Hearings having recently passed, I felt this benchmark was a chance to find answers to some unresolved questions from the groundbreaking 1991 Hearings. It was also a chance to tell a dramatic story of what happens to a private citizen, Anita Hill, who answers a subpoena to testify in one of the most highly charged political stakes of the time, the future of the U.S. Supreme Court. As a journalist observed, "She had no idea she was walking into a political lion's den."

Today I can still vividly recall the severity of the verbal attack by a U.S. Senator against Anita Hill, a person I really didn't know much about. It was a Saturday morning in early October 1991. I was wearing headphones while running and didn't need to see a televised image of Senator Orrin Hatch to be struck by the venom of his comments. Later that weekend I watched incredulously as a witness named John Doggett boasted on national TV about how Anita Hill was smitten and spurned by him. I was astonished that a group of men would make personal attacks on a witness, a woman, with little challenge in the august chamber of the US Senate. Questions immediately arose.

What was *really* going on? Why did Anita Hill engender this intense reaction? What threat was she? Who was she and what did she do?

For the millions of Americans riveted to their TV that Columbus Day weekend of October 11, 1991, Anita Hill seemed to have 'dropped in' to our living rooms memorably wearing a blue dress, captivating the world with graphic testimony of unwanted sexual advances by the nominee to the U.S. Supreme Court, Clarence Thomas. In the sensationalism of the moment and the intense political wrangling behind the Hearings, I felt the story of Anita Hill was lost – where did she come from, who was she before the Hearings, what has been her legacy since in terms of workplace rights and gender equality?

We started filming in early 2010 with Anita's full cooperation, hoping to go beyond the iconic moments of that time: the 9 hours of intense questioning of a poised Anita Hill; the vivid sex talk of harassment that resonated out of the shadows for millions of women for the first time; the spectacle of fourteen white middle aged male Senators stumbling through graphic testimony in determining the character and fitness of the nominee to sit on the highest court of the land.

In **ANITA** the film, Anita Hill speaks openly and intimately for the first time about her experience during the Senate Hearings and what happened to her life and work in the 20 years since. The

challenge for me as the filmmaker is to tell a universal story of transformation and empowerment that is riveting, entertaining, and amazing to a generation of women and men too young to know but who are benefiting by Anita Hill's courage to "Speak Truth to Power."

ANITA F. HILL

Anita Hill is a professor of social policy, law, and women's studies at Brandeis University. The youngest of thirteen children, she grew up on a farm in rural Oklahoma and received her JD from Yale Law School in 1980. After working in private practice and for the federal government in Washington, D.C. – first at the Department of Education and then at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission as Special Assistant and Counsel to Clarence Thomas - Hill joined the faculty of the University of Oklahoma College of Law. She is the author of *Speaking Truth to Power*, in which she detailed her experience as a witness in Clarence Thomas' Supreme Court Senate confirmation Hearings in 1991. Her latest book *Reimagining Equality – Stories of Race, Gender, and Finding Home* looks at the current housing crisis and its impact especially on women of color in achieving the American Dream. Anita Hill writes and lectures widely on issues of race and gender equality.

CHARLES OGLETREE

Charles Ogletree was the lead counsel among a group of attorneys who volunteered to advise Anita Hill during the Senate Judiciary Hearings in 1991. Charles Ogletree is the Jesse Climenko Professor of Law at Harvard Law School and the founding and executive director of the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice at the law school. He is the author of four books on race and law and was named one of the 100 + Most Influential Black Americans by Ebony magazine. He continues to be special counsel to President Obama and advisor on police behavior to Harvard University and the City of Cambridge.

JILL ABRAMSON

Jill Abramson is the Executive Editor of The New York Times, the first woman to assume this role in the paper's 160-year history. While an undergraduate she was the Arts Editor of *The Harvard Independent* and subsequently worked at *Time magazine, The American Lawyer*, and the *Wall Street Journal*, for which she covered Anita Hill's testimony in the Senate Hearings October 11, 1991. As a journalist and author, she co-wrote with Jane Mayer *Strange Justice*, the definitive story of the Hill/Thomas Senate Judiciary Hearings. The book was a National Book Award finalist and made into a Showtime television movie.

JANE MAYER

Jane Mayer is an investigative journalist and staff writer for *The New Yorker*. She worked for *The Wall Street Journal* during the Hill/Thomas Senate Hearings and was named that paper's first female White House correspondent. Mayer served as a foreign correspondent for the *Journal* during the Persian Gulf War, the fall of the Berlin Wall and the last days of Communism in the former Soviet Union. The *Journal* nominated her twice for the Pulitzer Prize for feature writing. An author of several books, the latest The Inside Story of *How the War on Terror Turned into a War on American Ideals*, Mayer co-wrote *Strange Justice* with Jill Abramson.

JOHN W. CARR

John W. Carr is a Retired Partner of the Wall Street law firm of Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, where for three decades he represented some of the world's most renowned private equity firms, banks and corporations on mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and financings. Mr. Carr studied architecture and urban studies at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and serves on its Board of Trustees. He received his law degree and MBA from Harvard University. He is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and a director of the Apollo Theater Foundation Inc. He grew up on Chicago's South Side and currently lives in Manhattan and Martha's Vineyard with his wife and two daughters. Mr. Carr was a corroborating witness for Anita Hill during the Senate Judiciary Hearings in 1991.

CHUCK MALONE

Chuck Malone is a businessman and long-time companion of Anita Hill.

JOANNE N. SMITH and EMILY CARPENTER & Girls for Gender Equity

Girls for Gender Equity (GGE) is dedicated to bringing gender awareness and eliminating sexual harassment and bullying in the public schools through education and outreach.

Joanne Smith is the founder of Girls for Gender Equity (GGE), a Brooklyn, NY-based organization with a national mission that promotes the physical, psychological, social and economic well-being of girls, women, and ultimately the entire community.

Emily Carpenter is featured in the film ANITA as a youth organizer who works in the NYC public schools to help bring gender awareness about sexual harassment and bullying among students.

GGE believes that widespread violence against women and girls points to deeply rooted gender discrimination that must be tackled as a peace-building and human rights priority. GGE acts as a catalyst for change to improve gender and race relations and socio-economic conditions for our most vulnerable youth and communities of color.

THE FILMMAKERS

FREIDA MOCK

Director | Writer | Producer

Freida Mock is an Academy Award[®]- winning filmmaker - a director, writer and producer of feature length and short form theatrical documentary films. These include the Oscar winner *Maya Lin: A Strong Vision,* a feature about the designer of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. Among her Oscar nominated films are *Rose Kennedy, a Life to Remember; SING!;* and *Never Give UP*, about the holocaust survivor and conductor Dr. Herbert Zipper.

Mock's films feature stories about art, history, politics, and creativity and the recent ones are: G - DOG a just completed feature documentary film about the charismatic gang expert, the Jesuit priest Greg Boyle - founder of the largest, most successful gang intervention and rehab program in the country Homeboy Industries, now a world model for giving kids-at-risk and former gang members a second chance at life; *Wrestling With Angels: Playwright Tony Kushner*; the feature documentary *Sing China!* filmed on the launch of the Beijing Olympics; and *Lt. Watada*, shortlisted for the 2010 Oscar, a story about the first military officer to refuse to deploy to Iraq, to speak out about the war's illegality, and to willingly face court martial and 8 years in prison rather than be a party to war crimes.

Mock was the first Governor elected to the new Documentary Branch of the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences and served as Governor and Chair. She is presently co-chair of the DGA Documentary Awards Committee.

She is a partner in the Los Angeles-based Sanders & Mock Productions and co-founder of the nonprofit American Film Foundation that specializes in producing films on the arts, sciences and the humanities. Mock graduated from UC Berkeley where she continued graduate work in history and law.

BRIAN JOHNSON Editor

BRIAN JOHNSON is an ACE nominated editor who works in documentary, narrative films and television. Since attending New York University's School of Film and Television, Brian has edited, among many films, the Sundance Special Jury Prize Winner *After Innocence, Michael Apted's Married in America* series, Participant Media's Countdown to Zero, HBO's On Freddie Roach and the Academy Award®-nominated *Buena Vista Social Club*.

Rolling Stone called her music "fiery and virtuosic..." George Clinton called her "the Jimi Hendrix of the violin." Lili Haydn has released four critically acclaimed major label recordings as a solo artist and appeared on numerous TV shows, including the *Tonight Show* and *Californication*. She has collaborated and sung with Roger Waters, Herbie Hancock, Sting, Jimmy Page, Robert Plant, the LA Philharmonic, and George Clinton's P-Funk All Stars. She is the featured voice and violin on several films with Hans Zimmer and other movie composers. After scoring the award-winning documentary *The Horse Boy*, Ms. Haydyn received a fellowship to the Sundance Film Institute Composers Lab and began her career as a film composer for films *Zeitgeist: Moving Forward*, *Somewhere Between*, *The Sublime and Beautiful*, and *ANITA*.

A humanitarian and activist, Ms. Haydyn performs regularly for human rights organizations, including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, the Global Security Institute (for which she performed a concert at the UN). Above all, Lili believes that music has the power to uplift and heal, and she's honored to be a part of this important film. <u>www.lilihaydn.com</u> www.facebook.com/LiliHaydn

KEN CHOWDER Writer

Ken Chowder has written over 25 films broadcast on PBS, NBC, Discovery, TBS, and BBC, and published three well-received novels with Harper/Collins. Credits include films for PBS' *The American Experience*, an *American Masters*, an Academy Award nomination, Best History Film at many festivals. His articles have appeared in many magazines, including *Smithsonian*, *American Heritage*, *The New York Times Magazine*.

BESTOR CRAM

Director of Photography

Bestor Cram is a producer/director/cinematographer and the creative director at his Boston company Northern Light Productions. His most recent documentary projects include Weapons of Mass Disruption (Cyber Terrorism) and the ITVS supported *This Is Where We Take Our Stand* (Iraq-Afghanistan veterans anti–war movement). His film *Unfinished Symphony* premiered at Sundance 2001. Current work includes *Invisible Island* about a slain Puerto Rican independence leader and *On the Other Side of the Wall* about the struggles of an ex-con gang leader in recovery following life behind prison bars. Northern Light specializes in projects for museums including the recently opened MOB Museum in Las Vegas.

Don Lenzer is a documentary director/cinematographer whose camera or director of photography credits are featured in five Academy Award winning theatrical feature documentaries including Woodstock, *He Makes Me Feel Like Dancing, Maya Lin: A Strong Clear Vision* and *Into The Arms Of Strangers.* His other theatrical documentaries include *The Grateful Dead Movie, Say Amen, Somebody, The Long Way Home, Smash His Camera, The Audition* and *Wagner's Dream.*

His work has been featured on numerous public television documentaries including *Georgia* O'Keefe: A Portrait, Vladimir Horowitz: The Last Romantic, James Baldwin: The Price of The Ticket, Dancing for Mr. B: Six American Ballerinas, the National Geographic Special, Lost Kingdoms of the Maya, Suzanne Farrrell: Elusive Muse, and the PBS Series, Craft In America.

His directing credits include the Public Broadcast Lab feature length documentary, *Fathers and Sons*, and the short film, *A Wonderful Construction*. He co-directed and shot the Emmy Award winning Great Performances documentary, *Itzhak Perlman: In The Fiddler's House*.

ERIK DAARSTAD Director of Photography

Erik Daarstad has photographed hundreds of films over his long distinguished award-winning career, from feature films to TV commercials with the majority of his work in documentaries. Seven of these have been nominated for Academy Awards and one, *Why Man Creates* by graphic designer Saul Bass, received the Oscar for Best Documentary short. His favorite works focus on personal stories of individuals, such as *G-DOG*, among his favorites.

REGINA K. SCULLY Executive Producer

Regina K. Scully is the founder and CEO of RPR Marketing Communications, a premiere public relations firm with clients worldwide that include major brands such as Johnson & Johnson, Spiegel, Aveeno, Givenchy, Boucheron and Polo.com. Ms. Scully focuses primarily on developing new business strategies and programs for her clients. She began her career in journalism with Seventeen magazine, FOX Television and CNN. Her work in public relations began with Hill & Knowlton Agency and she served as Public Relations Director for L'Oreal Cosmetics and Christian Dior Perfumes before founding RPR.

Geralyn Dreyfous founded the Philanthropic Initiative, which guides families of wealth in strategic giving opportunities and co-taught documentary writing at Harvard University. She has been an executive producer and producer on award winning films including the Oscar winner *Born Into Brothels* and the Emmy nominated *The Day My God Died*.

Ms. Dreyfous is the Founder/Chair of the Utah Film Center and a charter member of the Utah Coalition for Film and Media. In 2007 she co-founded with Dan Cogan Impact Partners Film Fund which is an advisory service committed to financing independent cinema that addresses pressing social issues. The Fund brings financiers and filmmakers together. Since its inception IP has been involved in financing over 25 films including the Oscar winning feature documentary *The Cove* and *Freeheld*, the Oscar winning documentary short, as well as the Emmy Award-winning documentary special *The Ghosts of Abu Ghraib*.

FREADA KLEIN

Executive Producer

Freada Kapor Klein, Ph.D. co-founded in 1976 the first group in the U.S. to focus on sexual harassment, which was also the topic of her doctoral dissertation awarded by Brandeis University. For decades, she has been a highly sought after commentator on issues about workplace bias.

Ms. Klein founded the Level Playing Field Institute (<u>www.lpfi.org</u>), which promotes innovative approaches to fairness in higher education and workplaces. The Institute's Summer Math and Science Honors Academy (SMASH), a three-summer high school program serving under-represented students of color, is in the process of scaling nationally. Her book *Giving Notice: Why the Best and the Brightest Leave the Workplace and How You Can Help Them Stay* (Jossey-Bass 2007) combines quantitative research on who leaves corporate America and why, with stories of day-to-day experiences detailing the human and financial cost.

FILM CREDITS

Opening Credits

Chanlim Films American Film Foundation In Association with Impact Partners and Artemis Rising Foundation A film by Freida Mock

ANITA Speaking Truth to Power

Closing Credits

Director Writer Producer FREIDA MOCK

Executive Producer REGINA K. SCULLY

Executive Producer GERALYN DREYFOUS DAN COGAN Executive Producer FREADA KLEIN BARBARA LEE Executive Producer BARBARA DOBKIN ERIC DOBKIN

Editor BRIAN JOHNSON

Cinematographer BESTOR CRAM DON LENZER

Additional Cinematography ERIK DAARSTAD JESSE BEECHER HIROKI MIYANO

Composer LILI HAYDN

Sound editor & Re-recording Mixer AARON GLASCOCK

Co – Writer KEN CHOWDER Archival Research RICH REMSBERG

Musicians

Guitar WOODY APLANALP Bass ITAI DISRAELI Piano MILEN KIROV Percussionist SATNAM SINGH RAMGOTA Violin Viola Voice Programming LILI HAYDN

Songs

"Here is the Rose" by Lili Haydn (Quan Yin Music (BMI) and Marvin Etzioni (Prophet Sharing Music ASCAP) written for ANITA, performed by Lili Haydn, Produced by Lili Haydn and Frankie Blue

"Tango Luciana by Lili Haydn (Quan Yin Music, BMI), Performed by Tryptich "Place Between Places" by Lili Haydn (Quan Yin Music, BMI) Additional Music CHRIS LORD Score Mixer SLAMM ANDREW Additional Orchestrations Composition Assistant Program Sequencer MARY WEBSTER Music Editor JESSICA WEISS

Studio Mixing Services by Remote Control Productions

Sound Recordist JESSE BEECHEER RICHARD GIN BOB SCHUCK MARK ROY

Production Associate CHLOE ZIMMERMAN HUY MOELLER KRISTI BUBA

Media Manager John ARGUDO JOHN AGUA ALEX BAXTER

Designer CHRISTOPHER KOMURA LIAN JUE BRITTANY SANDERS

Post Production Sound Facilities WARNER BROS. STUDIOS Recordist Josh Eckberg Special Thanks Kim Waugh

Additional Editing Gina Hirsch

Post Production Services BANDITO BROTHERS

Online Editor LANCE HOLTE Assistant Editor FERNANDO RAIGOZA, JR.

Colorist CHRIS HALL

Post Supervisor LANCE HOLTE Post Producer JACOB ROSENBERG

Executive in Charge of Production TERRY SANDERS

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The Hill and Fennell Families Chuck Malone **Rena Wheaton Professor Charles Ogletree** John W. Carr Jill Abramson Jane Mayer Chief Justice Jean Toal, S.C. Supreme Court Aaron Glascock Jim Kirst Eve Ensler Cynthia Greenberg Jason Rosenberg **Edwidge Danticat** Anika Noni Rose Kevin Powell Cara Mertes Joanne N. Smith Emily May

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Patrick Brown Drucilla Barker Pedro Kos Beverly Guy-Sheftall Joel and Susan Hyatt Louise Forrest Davis Annabel Sheinberg Professor Alan Grinnell David Lee Danny Eason and Abundant Life Choir Kathleen Peratis Letty Cottin Pogrebin Patricia J. Williams Jessica Sanders Dr. Feelie Lee Pat Mitchell Dina Kuperstock

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ANITA Speaking Truth to Power

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