



February 17, 2019

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## **GreenLight Women Film Completion Grant Winner Announced**

### **Tchaiko Omawale's Film "Solace" Becomes The First Film Grant Awarded in 2019**

Los Angeles, California... GreenLight Women, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization which supports women 40 and over, has awarded its first film grant at a champagne brunch honoring director Kasi Lemmons and Black History Month at the London Hotel In West Hollywood on Sunday, February 17. The grant honors women who have devoted their talents and energy to creating exceptional film.

Writer/director/producer **Tchaiko Omawale** is the winner of GreenLight Women's first Film Completion Grant for her film "Solace." Co-producer **Sascha Brown Rice** will attend the event and **Ivy Kagan Bierman**, President of GreenLight Women, is presenting the award to Omawale .

"Solace" is the moving and artful portrait of a smart, driven, and self-destructive teenage orphan struggling to find her place. Tchaiko Omawale is a fresh filmmaking voice whose unique storytelling style, one that is both visual and emotional, along with her sure-handed directing, provides a rare combination in a first feature. Led by Hope Olaide Wilson's heartfelt performance and brave turn as Sole, "Solace" is a unique coming-of-age story, which takes on the claustrophobic isolation of mental health issues with empathy and artistry.

Founded in 2018, The GreenLight Women Film Completion Grant awards financial gift aid, support and encouragement to female filmmakers who demonstrate significant artistic talent in the visual arts and industry-related fields and who display innovative skills and a level of excellence, in order to complete their films by, for or about women.

"We are thrilled to award this grant to such a deserving filmmaker. We look forward to seeing more exciting and thoughtful work from this promising talent," says **Marion Rosenberg**, O.B.E., and Chair of GreenLight Women. The GreenLight Grants Action Group presents the GreenLight Grant to selected recipients after careful consideration and review.

Writer/director/producer Tchaiko Omawale grew up in seven countries while her father worked for UNICEF. She graduated from Columbia University, then interned for Spike Lee and Mira Nair. While assisting directors George C. Wolfe and Tom Vaughan she directed several short form projects. Tchaiko was awarded the Gaea Sea Change Residency for artists working for social change. Her feature film “Solace” was a Semi-Finalist for the Sundance Writers Lab 2012; it received the Panavision New Filmmakers Program Award 2015; in 2016 the project participated in Tribeca All Access, the IFFP Narrative Lab, the Creative Visions Creative Activist Program and Big Vision Empty Wallet diversity program. In 2017 it was a Women In Film grantee and a Film Independent Efilm/Company 3 grant winner. “Solace” premiered at the LA Film Festival 2018, winning Special Jury Mention Best Ensemble Cast. It is currently on the festival circuit and won the New Orleans Film Festival Audience Award. Tchaiko was a 2017 School of Making Thinking Resident fellow where she created the VR film “Shapeshifters”. In between her independent projects she produces and directs commercials and branded content. You can see her work here: [www.tchaiko.com](http://www.tchaiko.com)

<http://greenlightwomen.org/>

GreenLight Women is a 501c 3 non-profit organization based in Los Angeles. It is an alliance of accomplished creative and business professionals age 40 and over whose mission is to champion women and promote diverse perspectives in media.

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**Tchaiko Omawale**

2019 winner of GreenLight Women’s Film Completion Grant for her film “Solace.”