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Sundance: 'Brainwashed' Doc Examines the Subtle (and Not-So-Subtle) Ways Women are Objectified Onscreen

Featuring interviews with filmmakers like Joey Soloway, Julie Dash, Catherine Hardwicke and others, director Nina Menkes argues that the “visual language” of filmmaking — even from women helmers — can have real-world consequences, especially in the entertainment industry: “We all have to look at what we’re doing and think about it a lot more.”

BY **KATIE KILKENNY**  JANUARY 21, 2022 6:00AM



KATIE KILKENNY
REPORTER

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Brainwashed: Sex-Camera-Power COURTESY OF MENKESFILM

At one point in her new documentary *Brainwashed: Sex-Camera-Power*, director **Nina Menkes** takes a closer look at a pivotal scene in the 2019 docudrama *Bombshell*, a film sometimes credited as being the first major Hollywood title to reckon with the #MeToo movement. In one sequence in the film, centered on the women at Fox News who accused former CEO Roger Ailes of sexual harassment, Ailes (played by John Lithgow) calls employee Kayla (Margot Robbie) to his office and asks her to pull her skirt up for him. Over the course of the excerpt shown in the

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