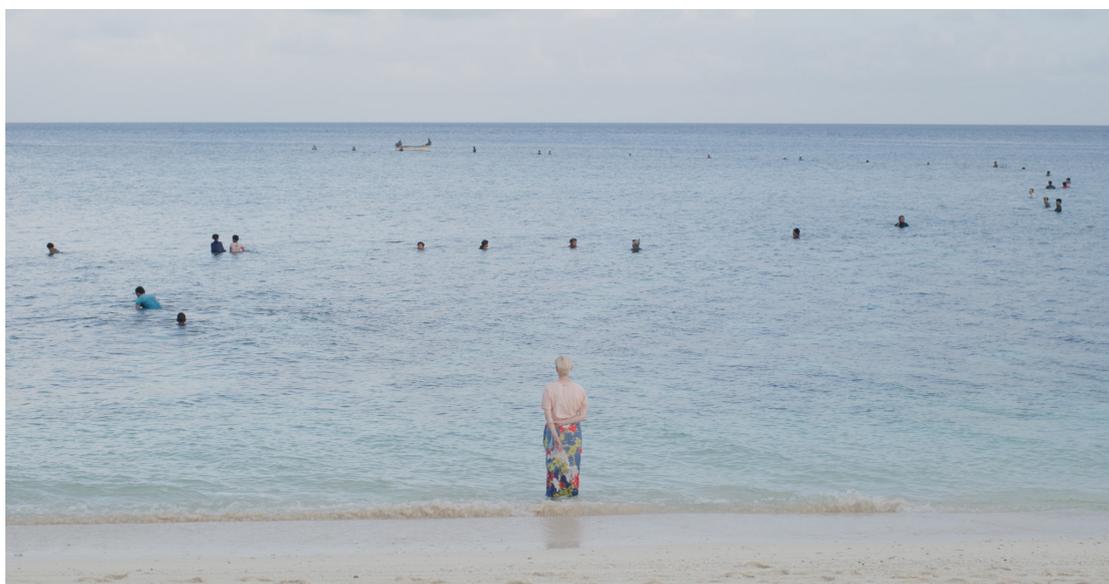


PRESS KIT

Heart Of Light

Eleven songs for Fiji

A film by Cynthia Beatt. Featuring FIJI and Tilda Swinton. Germany, France 2025, 166 min



German Distribution / Press

Filmgalerie 451

Saarbrücker Straße 24, 10405 Berlin

Tel: + 49 30 3398 2800

German Distribution: kino@filmgalerie451.de

Press: presse@filmgalerie451.de

www.filmgalerie451.de



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PRESS PHOTOS / SCREENER INFORMATION

Press photos: <https://www.filmgalerie451.de/de/presse/pressebereich>

Username: Presse | Password: Presse451

Screener on request: <https://vimeo.com/1145088555?share=copy&fl=sv&fe=ci>

Director Portrait:

LOGLINE

HEART OF LIGHT – Eleven songs for Fiji

After a long absence, Iona (Tilda Swinton) returns to Fiji, the archipelago of her childhood. HEART OF LIGHT tells of a spirit formed by the islands, fusing intimacy and collective history, fiction and documentary, social realities and poetic inspiration.

SYNOPSIS

Heart of Light – eleven songs for Fiji is an accumulation of 'divine small things' in everyday Fijian life and landscapes, which create in us an understanding of something greater.

By fusing intimacy and collective history, fiction and documentary, social realities and poetic inspiration HEART OF LIGHT confronts Iona (Tilda Swinton) during the months of her return after a long absence to the islands of Fiji, where memories, an ancient culture, landscapes and encounters intertwine. For Iona, who feels herself both deeply attached to the islands and yet 'an outsider', it's an introspective and sensory journey of exploration, in a world whose culture is both close and distant. It's also an opportunity to question the identity of an Oceanian territory and the relationship to its ancestral land in its own post-colonial era. In this way the film challenges European notions of "post-colonialism" as an exterior, historical event.

Heart of Light – eleven songs for Fiji opens up and reveals the unpredictable spirit, the Art of the Real.

FILM INFORMATION

Original title: Heart Of Light – Eleven songs for Fiji

Country of production: Germany, France

Year of production: 2026

Original language: English, Fijian, German (English / French / German subtitles available)

Category: Essay / Documentary film

Running time: 166 minutes

Original format: Digital

Screening Format: DCP (4K) and (2K)

Aspect Ratio: 1,85:1

Speed: 25fps

Sound: 5.1 surround sound

Color / B/W: Color

CREDITS

Written by	Cynthia Beatt
Director	Cynthia Beatt
Cinematography	Jenny Lou Ziegel
Camera Assistant	Timoci Saganatotoka Wilisoni
Sound recording	Manja Ebert
Additional camera	Frangipani Beatt / Timoci Saganatotoka Wilisoni
Production Manager	Sairusi Raiwalu
Director's Assistant	Faith Ganiviti Watling
Editor	Cynthia Beatt / Till Beckmann
Color grading	Till Beckmann
Sound Edit/Design	Marlon Beatt
Sound Mix	Jochen Jezussek
Technical Assistance	Till Beckmann
Production Assistant	Manya Halas
Protagonists:	
Tilda Swinton	
Talei Draunibaka	
Nemia Vanua	
Simione Sevudredre	
Simon Fisher Turner	
Ratu Jone Balenaivalu	
Akuila Cavuilati	
Jeke Tagicakibau	
Sereima Divavani	
Vilimaina Katonivere	
Akuila Cavuilati	
Jeke Tagicakibau	
Peter Knaack	
Viliame Ravai	
Rudra Nand	
Simra Nand	
Joji Tamani	
Lasarusa Moce	
Esekaia Tukai Sovea	
Kaulotu Waqa	
among many others...	
Production	
Heartbeatt Pictures	Cynthia Beatt
La Cinéfiliale	Philippe Avril
German Cultural Ministry	
Mini Traité – FFA / CNC	
ZDF/3Sat	Redaktion Nicole Baum
FILM FIJI	
Magnum Productions, Fiji	
Festival Strategy	Pascale Ramonda
German Distribution	Filmgalerie 451



Photo: Cynthia Beatt during the shooting of "The invisible Frame"

Cynthia Beatt describes her first feature BESCHREIBUNG EINER INSEL herself as an “ethnographic-feature”, which sounds like a contradiction, but in her case is not and applies to all of her films. Her films are very precise observations of foreign places that take a clear point of view, usually embodied by an actress or even by herself. The films are based on long term research and observations, nothing is coincidental and yet everything is real. They look documentary but they are not and the other way round, it doesn't matter, they are Cynthia Beatt - films. Beautiful, poetic, critical and questioning.

BIOGRAPHY CYNTHIA BEATT

Cynthia Beatt grew up in Jamaica and the Fiji Islands. She studied at Bath Academy of Art and then moved into film. After working with 24 Frames in London, she travelled for a year through the Middle East, Iran, Afghanistan, India, and then moved to Berlin. In the 1970s and 80s she worked with the Arsenal and the International Forum of New Cinema, programmed major retrospectives of Roberto Rossellini, Fritz Lang, Jean Rouch, Powell and Pressburger, Max Ophüls. She began directing films in 1979.

"Matisse felt that the human side of painting is the result of a mysterious, expressive quality which, if the painter is possessed of a good sensibility, comes through in the final painting. Thus it need not be overly stated in the subject matter ... He was referring to paintings, but I apply it to cinema. It is about perception. I like films that have a deceptive lightness, with underlying layers of consciousness, images, sound. Film is like music. In a sense, I compose my films as musical scores." Cynthia Beatt

FILMOGRAPHY CYNTHIA BEATT

- HEART OF LIGHT – Eleven Songs for Fiji, 2026, 166 min
- A HOUSE IN BERLIN, 2014, 96 min
- THE INVISIBLE FRAME, 2009, 60 min
- THE PARTY – NATURE MORTE, 1991, 89 min
- CYCLING THE FRAME, 1988, 27 min
- DAKUI GAU TRIO / NAMOSI, 1986, 20 min
- BÖSE ZU SEIN IST AUCH EIN BEWEIS VON GEFÜHL ("Fury is a Feeling Too"), 1983, 25 min
- BESCHREIBUNG EINER INSEL (co-directed/produced with Rudolf Thome), 1979, 200 min

More information at www.filmgalerie451.de