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Outfest and Newfest Audience Award Winner Suicide Kale Launches on VOD 3/24: A Queer Women's Comedy that Destroys the Bechdel Test

Free Oakland screening on Thursday, March 23rd kicks off release

San Francisco, CA — Featuring Jasika Nicole (*Underground*, *Scandal*, *Fringe*) and actor/writer Brittani Nichols (*Transparent*, *Words with Girls*), dark comedy *Suicide Kale*, directed by Carly Usdin, is available Friday, March 24th for the first time on VOD. *Suicide Kale* has screened at over 30 Festivals across the globe and earned Audience Awards at Outfest in Los Angeles and Newfest in New York City, in addition to other accolades.

A free admission screening at the Piedmont Theatre in Oakland, CA on Thursday, March 23rd at 7PM will kick off the VOD release as part of Frameline's free Encore series, with director Carly Usdin in attendance for the screening and post-film Q&A. *Suicide Kale* is available for VOD rental Friday, March 24th on Vimeo and Amazon, with pre-orders available on 3/21. The film will also be available on iTunes and via Amazon Prime later in the spring, while continuing to play at Festivals across the world.

A rarity within even the LGBTQ film genre, *Suicide Kale* centers the lives of queer women, primarily queer women of color in this tale of two couples, one brunch, and a mysterious note. *Vice's* Carrie Nelson notes "The honesty of the story is refreshing, as is the ease with which it passes the <u>Bechdel Test</u>: No male characters appear in the film, nor are any ever the topic of conversation." Using naturalistic acting with an emphasis on dialogue, the largely improvised film is one of the first of its kind to open up the mumblequeer genre in LGBTQ film, and was shot over the course of just five days.

Suicide Kale is distributed by Frameline, host to the oldest and largest LGBTQ Film Festival in the world, a San-Francisco Bay Area non-profit LGBTQ media arts organization. Suicide Kale is the first feature-length narrative film Frameline has distributed in nearly a decade, having concentrated on social justice documentaries and short form narratives as the country's only non-profit distributor amplifying the voices of underserved members of the LGBTQ community.

LINKS:

Film Trailer
Vimeo Pre-Order
Frameline Encore Screening (March 23)
Film Website

Preview Link Available Upon Request

About Frameline Distribution: Frameline Distribution is the only non-profit LGBTQ distributor in the United States. There are over 250 films in the collection, spanning over 40 years; from seminal titles like Marlon Riggs' 1989 groundbreaking *Tongues Untied* to a 2016 collection of short films on transgender and gender expansive youth. Frameline Distribution specializes in sales and rentals to educational institutions, public libraries, film festivals, and community groups, and also disseminates titles direct to LGBTQ users via Amazon, Vimeo, Comcast and other SVOD/TVOD/AVOD platforms.

About Frameline:

Frameline's mission is to change the world through the power of queer cinema. As a media arts nonprofit, Frameline's programs connect filmmakers and audiences in San Francisco and around the world. Frameline's integrated programs provide critical funding for emerging LGBTQ filmmakers, reach hundreds of thousands with a collection of more than 250 films distributed nationally, inspire thousands of students through Youth In Motion, which sends free films and curricula to schools across the nation, and creates an international stage for the world's best queer film through the San Francisco International LGBTQ Film Festival and additional year-round screenings and cinematic events. Learn more at www.frameline.org

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