

**“The Refuge” screening at the David Lynch’s Private Members Club: Silencio, plus Q&A with Maria Millan, Lujza Richter Hugo and Demi Hannah Scott.**

The Refuge, a film that stars actresses Lujza Richter Hugo and Demi Hannah Scott directed by Maria Millan will have a special screening and Q+A at Silencio this 26<sup>th</sup> October from 6pm.

The Refuge is a protest against the UK government’s cuts to the Mental Health budget, which is forcing many women’s aid centers to close their doors leaving many victims homeless and marked for life.

*Lujza Richter Hugo* is a French actress daughter of the painter *Gerhard Richter* and granddaughter of the famous writer *Victor Hugo*, she is known for her role as Princess Mona Braganza next to *Daniel Day-Lewis* in *Phantom Thread* by *Paul Thomas Anderson*.

Demi Hannah Scott is an English fashion model and actress known for her constant work at SHOWStudio with *Nick Knight*, and for being the international face of *Uniqlo*, *Fenty Puma*, *Gareth Pugh*, and many other world-class brands.

The film is directed, written and produced by the Venezuelan filmmaker and photographer: Maria Millan. Her talent lies in breath-takingly beautiful storytelling, as she utilises the subtle art of tension. Her fashion videos and pictures effortlessly bring buried emotion and sentiment to the surface. You can find her intriguing work in *Vogue*, *Jute*, *Fruk* and *Ellements Magazine* amongst others.

“Maria Millan definitely shows up her directing skills. The Refuge is a very moving piece,” says *Anthony Fawcett*, art consultant and writer.

The Refuge won an award for best short in the Social Machinery Film Festival in Italy, is part of the official selection of the Philadelphia Women’s Film Festival in the US and the L’Etrange Film Festival in Paris, 2018.

Based on true stories, The Refuge sheds light on the fact that women are being marginalized instead of being accepted into society especially when being in crisis.

Millan stays true to her love of fashion and aesthetics as she enchants her audience with a film where every still could be found in the centerfold of a high-fashion magazine. Her playful use of colour and texture creates a beautiful world that engages the spectator with the intense story that lies beneath the sublime and striking surface.

Tackling gender disparity in an often-frightening world dictated by money and male ego, *The Refuge* holds a mirror to the contemporary misogyny that is having tragic implications on real lives.

For press enquires please get in touch through [TheRefugeTheMovie@mariamillan.com](mailto:TheRefugeTheMovie@mariamillan.com) and to assist to this event don't forget to write to [rsvp@mariamillan.com](mailto:rsvp@mariamillan.com) The Refuge will loop from 6 to 8 pm and the Q & A will start right after that.

Thank you for reading.

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/210276514>

<http://www.mariamillan.com/>

<https://twitter.com/TheRefugefilm>

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