



WOMEN OF DOMINICA ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT

67 Minutes | Dominica & USA | 2026
English (with subtitles) | 4K Digital | 16:19 | DCP | ProRes

Farrah La Ronde-Hutchison | farrah@gaiasessence.com | 631-965-0606 |
www.womenofdominica.com | Social: @womenofdominica

Logline

An intergenerational story of ten women on the Caribbean island of Dominica, woven through mentorship, matriarchal wisdom, and ancestral heritage.

Synopsis (Short & Long versions)

Short: Ten women of Dominica weave mentorship, matriarchal wisdom and ancestral heritage into a shared story of resilience, identity and the enduring power of their island.

Long: An intergenerational story of ten women on the Caribbean island of Dominica, interwoven through mentorship, matriarchal wisdom, and ancestral heritage. Bound by the love for their island, the film honors their resilience, identity, and cultural legacy.

Director's Statement

As a Dominican, California based environmental scientist and storyteller, my path to filmmaking grew organically from my work in coastal restoration and my journey of preserving cultural memory. For over a decade, I worked to protect fragile ecosystems and advocate for sustainability through science and education. I've realized that the most lasting change begins with storytelling, especially stories of women and communities too often excluded from dominant narratives.

Women of Dominica is my directorial debut and a natural evolution of my creative practice. It merges my scientific lens with my passion for cultural preservation and community engagement. The idea for the film originated as a tribute to my mother, a seamstress and cultural icon who received Dominica's Golden Drum Award in 2019 for her lifelong work in preserving our traditional Creole wear. As I spoke to other women who had shaped my worldview; musicians, Kalinago elders, educators, and scientists, the project expanded into a larger narrative about mentorship, identity, and the power of community.

Filmmaking enables me to amplify Caribbean voices while situating stories within an environmental context. This intersection of ecology and identity has become central to my artistic voice. I see the island as a character in this story, resilient and layered, just like the women who inhabit it. As I grow as a filmmaker, I aim to continue creating work that uplifts regional narratives, especially those shaped by women, land, and legacy.

I want this film to connect generations; to give elders a platform and younger women a mirror in which they see themselves reflected. I want to create space for cultural pride, healing, and preservation. Success is not just festival recognition, though I hope the film reaches global audiences. It is also about community screenings in village halls, school conversations, and moments where the women feel fully seen and valued.

This process has taught me that filmmaking is more than just a craft. I'm committed to continuing this journey with curiosity, purpose, and care.

Director's Bio

Farrah La Ronde-Hutchison is an environmental scientist, sustainability consultant, and documentary filmmaker. For over a decade, she has led interdisciplinary projects in coastal restoration, land-use planning, and sustainable development in Dominica, the US, and Australia. Her work has been recognized for advancing community-based climate solutions and empowering Indigenous and local voices in conservation.

She is the founder and president of Wild Dominica Conservancy, a nonprofit dedicated to protecting Dominica's natural environment through education, scientific programming, and land stewardship. Her environmental leadership is focused on ecological resilience and building youth leadership in science.

Farrah brings this depth of experience to her creative work. *Women of Dominica* is her directorial debut, a documentary that weaves together mentorship, matriarchal strength, and the preservation of cultural and ecological identity. Her filmmaking is guided by a clear mission: to amplify Caribbean stories rooted in land, legacy, and intergenerational wisdom.

Director's Headshot



Cast



Still: ***Jeanelle Brisbane*** – Women of Dominica: a Dominican conservation ecologist leading scientific and community efforts to protect her homeland's unique biodiversity



Still: *Pearle Christian – Women of Dominica*: a Dominican composer and cultural leader, whose devoted her life to music education and the preservation of her island's folk traditions.



Marie José Edwards: former Director of Tourism and natural resource scientist, Marie José was instrumental in establishing the island's only UNESCO World Heritage Site and has over 25 years of expertise in environmental planning and sustainable development.



Michele Henderson: internationally acclaimed, Dominican singer, song-writer and cultural ambassador whose music blends jazz, cadence-lypso and Creole traditions.



Leandra Lander: a Dominican educator, chorale director, and former Miss Dominica whose dedicated leadership and advocacy nurture musical excellence among her students while elevating community heritage.



Miranda Langlais: a Dominican Indigenous Kalinago cultural ambassador and elder leader whose decades of dedication revive her community's traditions, heritage and stewardship.



Marvlyn La Ronde: a Dominican artist, seamstress and fashion designer whose innovative work in traditional Creole wear preserves her heritage and strengthens cultural identity,



Ophelia Olivaccé-Marie: Dominica's 'Lady of Song,' is a celebrated singer-songwriter whose cadence-lypso and Creole music has earned her international acclaim and cultural icon status.



Tasha Peltier: a Dominican singer-songwriter and cultural pioneer, the first female Calypso Monarch of Dominica, whose powerful voice elevates Caribbean music and tradition.



Shannon St. Hillaire: a Dominican environmentalist whose platform at Miss Dominica champions environmental stewardship and youth empowerment.

Stills and Assets









Logo

Social Media

Twitter: <https://x.com/womenofdominica>
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/womenofdominica/>
YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@gaiaessence>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/womenofdominica>
TikTok: <https://www.tiktok.com/@womenofdominica>
Hashtag: #womenofdominica
Trailer Link: <https://youtu.be/G8XB7YiKpb4>

Production Credits

Directed by

Farrah La Ronde-Hutchison

Edited by

Shabnam Nimi Divingele
Eric Hutchison

Produced by

Farrah La Ronde-Hutchison
Eric Hutchison

Colorist

Anna Dobos

Co-Produced by

Darlene Hutchison
Eric Hutchison Sr.

Cinematography by

Eric Hutchison

Director of Photography

Lawrence Bentine

Sound Engineering by

Tim Boggs