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Kino Lorber acquires U.S. rights to SXSW selection *Black Zombie*

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The documentary from Maya Annik Bedward examines how zombie mythology has been altered from its Haitian origins through cinema.

Kino Lorber has acquired the U.S. distribution rights to Afro Caribbean-Canadian filmmaker Maya Annik Bedward's documentary *Black Zombie*.

The doc (pictured), which made its world premiere at this year's **SXSW Film Festival**, traces the origin and evolution of the zombie concept from Haitian spiritual tradition to fixtures of Hollywood horror movies.

The film examines the roots of the zombie myth through iconic films such as *White Zombie*, *Night of the Living Dead* and *The Serpent and the Rainbow* alongside archival footage, vérité scenes and interviews with cultural historians, artists and genre legends. Interview subjects include Yves-Grégory Francois, Mambo Labelle Déesse, Guns N' Roses guitarist Slash, Tom Savini and Zandashé Brown.

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The deal for the film was negotiated by Karoliina Dwyer, Kino Lorber's VP of acquisitions, and Bill Straus of Bridge Independent. Raven Banner Releasing holds the Canadian distribution rights.

Black Zombie is written and directed by Bedward. The film is produced by Hannah Donegan alongside Bedward and Kate Fraser via their Third Culture Media banner. Jennifer Holness, Michael Paszt, Andrew Thomas Hunt, James Fler and Slash serve as executive producers.

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Image courtesy of Kino Lorber

