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BY [NADYA DOMINGO](http://thetfs.ca/author/nadya-domingoryerson-ca/) / MAY 3, 2014

# HOT DOCS 2014 REVIEW: VESSEL

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Inspired by the lack of safe and legal abortions across the world, Rebecca Gomperts founded Women on Waves that retrieves women internationally who seek an abortion. **Vessel** follows the organization as they attempt to provide safe early abortions outside of their country and onto international waters.

**Vessel** catches Women on Waves as they have a sudden breakthrough in their mission. As the media relentlessly highlights the controversy of their plight, the organization seeks other means of carrying out their mission other than on the water. As the organization faces many passionate and often violent protestors, they ultimately create an international community of allies.

**Vessel** demonstrates that one outlandish idea is enough to cause an imperative ripple effect around the world. No matter what people hold about abortions, it's still incredibly important that the topic is continually addressed. Many believe that Women on Waves shouldn't force your opinion on others — however, the documentary shows that the organization helps women to board their ship. Rather, a series of emails and voice mails documents the desperation of women across the world who are forced to secretly seek medical help with their pregnancy.

## Is Vessel essential festival viewing?

If you don't end up seeing it at Hot Docs, **Vessel** is bound to make its way to you elsewhere. Though Women on Waves

operating since 2000, the documentary will most likely resurface an important discussion about human rights.

## Vessel screening times

- [Friday, April 25, 2014 – 6:30 pm – Scotiabank Theatre](http://boxoffice.hotdocs.ca/WebSales/pages/info.aspx?evtinfo=22863-446634ba-e848-4237-9b3c-72aceddb5263&epguid=b314c44a-eed5-4434-9c2c-cc86c0bf61ee&)
- [Saturday, April 26, 2014 – 1:00 pm – Hart House Theatre](http://boxoffice.hotdocs.ca/WebSales/pages/info.aspx?evtinfo=22863-446634ba-e848-4237-9b3c-72aceddb5263&epguid=b314c44a-eed5-4434-9c2c-cc86c0bf61ee&)
- [Sunday, May 4, 2014 – 9:30 pm – Scotiabank Theatre](http://boxoffice.hotdocs.ca/WebSales/pages/info.aspx?evtinfo=22863-446634ba-e848-4237-9b3c-72aceddb5263&epguid=b314c44a-eed5-4434-9c2c-cc86c0bf61ee&)

## More About Vessel

### Vessel gallery



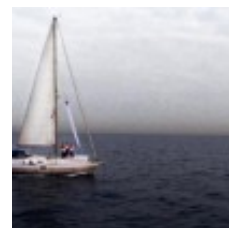
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**[Nadya Domingo \(http://thetfs.ca/author/nadya-domingoverson-ca/\)](http://thetfs.ca/author/nadya-domingoverson-ca/)**  
 Nadya Domingo is a journalism student at Ryerson University. She is currently editor in chief of Folio Magazine. Nadya loves reading This Magazine, listening to soundtracks, and watching documentaries. She is also excited to be the administrative intern for the National Magazine Foundation. Her dream is to write a book, make documentaries, and contribute to Point of View. Her favourite poems are "and a new earth" by wiroow and "Stop All The Clocks" by W.H Auden.  
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