



Former Prime Minister of Ireland Mary Robinson and Comedian Maeve Higgins
Launch Season II of Podcast *Mothers of Invention* on February 19



**CLIMATE CHANGE IS A MAN MADE
PROBLEM... WITH A FEMINIST SOLUTION**

New York, February 14, 2019 – The feminist climate justice podcast with a cult following, *Mothers of Invention*, reunites **Mary Robinson**, former President of Ireland, and comedian **Maeve Higgins** for its **Season II** return, starting **February 19**. The show highlights “mothers of invention” of all ages and cultures, and their optimistic solutions for a sustainable climate and an equitable world.

Mothers of Invention attracted over 70,000 new subscribers worldwide during its first season and is available at mothersofinvention.online and on [iTunes](#), [Spotify](#), [YouTube](#), [SoundCloud](#) and other platforms.

In Season II, the show moves to New York to take a closer look at how new feminist leaders in U.S. politics are influencing climate justice, while continuing to unearth stories of ingenuity across the Global South. The show follows the progress of major cities, as mayors adopt the



responsibilities of presidents; explores how climate justice movements are influenced by faith; and learns about the impact of climate change on migration, new economic models, fashion and more.

The first episode of Season II is titled, ***Nothing Happens Unless You Press the Button***, referencing the moment Robinson forgot how elevators worked after seven years of being cared for in high office.

It also features the youngest “mother of invention,” 13-year-old New York school striker **Alexandria Villasenor**, in addition to **Professor Opha Pauline Dube**, co-author of the UN’s recent IPCC climate report, and **Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim**, a leader from Chad’s indigenous Mbororo tribe.

In Season I, **Robinson** framed the discussion around climate action saying, “We’re in a bumpy time, with a lot of nationalism; a lot of politics is going the wrong direction. What the IPCC reporters said, ‘This is global now.’ We all have to stay at 1.5 degrees. That is going to be a huge moonshot approach. It’s like John Kennedy saying, ‘we have to reach the moon,’ and doing it in eight years. They did, and that was incredible. We need a moonshot approach now. Not business as usual.”

Season I guest and ‘mother of invention,’ Professor Pauline Dube, IPCC author from Botswana, stated, “I usually say to my first world colleagues that the most vulnerable group to climate change is the developed world. We should be spending more time really figuring out how the developed world gets out of the carbon-locked economy? Because for us, our economies can still be flexible and be changed. Yours? They can, but with great difficulty.”



HINDOU IBRAHIM,
CHAD



ALEXANDRIA VILLASENOR,
USA



PAULINE DUBE,
BOTSWANA

Since appearing on the show, “mothers” featured in Season I have received strong support from listeners worldwide. **Tessa Khan**, climate litigation expert at Urgenda, said, “It’s connected us to a community of supporters all over the world that we couldn’t have reached otherwise,” while former Kenyan environment minister, **Professor Judi Wakhungu**, responsible for the country’s plastic bag ban, said, “I received tremendous feedback and encouragement from individuals and organizations worldwide.”

You can **listen to new episodes** of *Mothers of Invention* and the complete first series [here](#).

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

After serving as the first female President of Ireland, **Mary Robinson** went on to lead the **UN Human Rights Commission**. She is a committed climate change crusader and her **Mary Robinson Climate Justice Foundation** worked to achieve sustainable and people-centered development across the globe. She has recently succeeded **Kofi Annan** to be the **first woman chair of [The Elders](#)**, the group of elder statespeople founded by **Nelson Mandela**.

President Barack Obama called Robinson, “An advocate for the hungry and the hunted, the forgotten and the ignored, Mary Robinson has not only shone a light on human suffering, but illuminated a better future for our world.”

Maeve Higgins

A comedy star from Ireland, Maeve has performed all over the world. Now living in New York, she co-hosts Neil deGrasse Tyson’s *StarTalk* on National Geographic and has appeared in Comedy Central’s *Inside Amy Schumer*. Her immigration podcast *Maeve in America* launched in 2016. She is an opinion writer for *the New York Times* and her latest book of essays, *Maeve in America*, was published last year.

About DOC SOCIETY

Doc Society is a non-profit founded in 2005, committed to enabling great documentary films and connecting them to audiences globally. Based in London and New York, they work with filmmakers and partners around the world. Doc Society receive major funding from the Ford Foundation and Bertha Foundations and are partnered with the BFI, the BBC and Sundance.

Doc Society showcased six films at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival, including *Knock Down the House* featuring Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, *Cold Case Hammarskjöld* on the death of UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld, and climate feature documentary *Anthropocene*. Previous Academy Award nominated films include: *CITIZENFOUR*, *Virunga*, *Dirty Wars* and *Look of Silence*.

Doc Society brings people together to unleash the transformational power of documentary film. Their mission states “*We stand in solidarity with filmmakers and work to unite them with new friends and allies, building new models globally. We aim to innovate, share, and innovate again..*”

Doc Society is dedicated to the impact of art and the art of impact. In addition to film funds, their programs include Good Pitch, Doc Academy, Impact Field Guide and Doc Impact Awards.

Find out more at www.docsgociety.org

